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POLL RESULTS

Have you visited or do you plan to visit the Taste of the Marianas festival this month?

Yes 61

No 60

Undecided 11

Sunday, May 23, 2010

INSIDE



Crash Aftermath

Investigators sift through the rubble of a plane crash that killed 158 people in India.

ASIA...Page 16



New Hero

Copernicus is reburied as a hero, nearly 500 years after being laid to rest in an unmarked grave.

WORLD...Page 17



Court Date

Lindsay Lohan is expected in court after missing a mandatory hearing.

LIFE & STYLE...Page 21

Fitial in San Diego for \$20B military buildup conference. **PAGE 3**
Businessman sues over amputation of middle finger. **PAGE 9**

\$1.8B in planned investments fail

» **DPL terminates Neo Gold Wings, Flame Sako land leases**

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Acting Gov. Eloy S. Inos and Public Lands Secretary Oscar M. Babauta separately said on Friday that Neo Gold Wings Paradise's planned \$1 billion casino on Tinian, and Flame Sako Resort & Spa's planned \$80 million hotel in Marpi have failed to secure financial commitments from investors or financing institutions.

Babauta

See **INVESTMENTS** on **Page 4**

Aguon to resign as Fund administrator

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER



Aguon

NMI Retirement Fund administrator Mark Aguon will resign from his post this week to continue his education in the mainland.

Saipan Tribune learned that Aguon had already told members of the board of trustees about his intention and highly placed sources disclosed that

See **AGUON** on **Page 4**



CLASS OF 2010

Members of the graduating class of Northern Marianas College listen to their keynote speaker, long-time educator Sam McPhetres, inset, during NMC's 30th commencement exercises held in the Marianas High School gymnasium on Saturday afternoon.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

See story on **Page 2**



Saipan braces for extended drought

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The CNMI is expected to experience a protracted dry season this summer

as the El Nino phenomenon is expected to last until June, based on the advisory from the National Oceanic Atmospheric Administration.

A May 20 advisory from NOAA

said the Mariana Islands—especially Saipan—should continue to implement water conservation measures.

CUC assistant executive director

See **DROUGHT** on **Page 4**

CHC, 39 others cited for drinking water violations

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The Commonwealth Health Center and 39 other entities that include two

bottled water manufacturers in the CNMI have been found violating the CNMI Drinking Water Regulations, based on separate notices of violations the Division of Environmental

Quality issued in the first quarter of the year.

CHC and eight other hotels and businesses—Riviera Resort 1 and

See **CHC** on **Page 4**

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Local

Smith, Sikayun are this year's top NMC graduates



Summa cum laude Madison Ann Smith addresses colleagues after being named outstanding graduate this year. Smith finished her associate degree in liberal arts.

HAIDEE EUGENIO



Ashley Marie Sikayun was named outstanding graduate last Saturday night. She finished her bachelors degree in elementary education with flying colors.

HAIDEE EUGENIO



Livia Mae T. Pangelinan was selected by the graduating class as their at-large student speaker during the commencement rites. Pangelinan completed her bachelor's degree in elementary education.

HAIDEE EUGENIO

» Honors awarded include 2 summa cum laude, 10 magna cum laude, 21 cum laude

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Madison Ann Smith and Ashley Marie Sikayun reaped summa cum laude honors at this year's commencement exercises of the Northern Marianas College, held Saturday at the Marianas High School gym.

Smith and Sikayun led 31 other graduates who were also awarded magna and cum laude honors. The Class of 2010 had a total of 162 graduates.

Smith, the daughter of Christina and F. Matthew Smith, completed her associate degree in liberal arts. Smith will be transferring to Brigham Young University in Utah this Fall semester.

"As we set out to start the rest of our lives, we look back on our years here. It's been a tough but rewarding journey we've made here today. We've accomplished things we never thought possible, made friendships that will last a lifetime, broken boundaries, and pushed ourselves to the limit. ...All these things have shaped the



Ian C. Carr was hailed top graduate in the general education development program of NMC.

HAIDEE EUGENIO

team," she told the crowd.

Outstanding graduates

Besides Sikayun and Smith, 31 other graduates were conferred magna and cum laude honors.

Magna cum laude honors went to Robert Lawrence Deleon Guerrero; Joan Ashley Tomokane; Jovannalyn Mafnas; Patricia Matagolai; Roxanne Ferrer; Michelle Camacho; Myo Sook Kim; Maria Ana Lizama; Jovannalyn Mafnas; and Chasmyn Toni Santos.

Students with cum laude honors were Claire Dina Cabrera;

Stacey Lou Demapan; Myung Hyun Kim; Sarah Sablan; Josefa Untalan; Milesceelyn Rodriguez; Kwon Sohn; Luis Jose Villagomez; Jose J-R Jacinto; Augustine Diaz; Jose J-R Jacinto; Frances Hofschneider; Colleen Deleon Guerrero;

Kimberly Delos Reyes; Anna Marie Guerrero; Conception Kiawol; Lorna Marie Manahan; Livia Pangelinan; Rita Mae Santos; Victoria Emilia Tudela; and Agatha Umwech.

Students who topped their certificate programs included Ruth Marie Matagolai in adult education and Ian Carr in general education development.

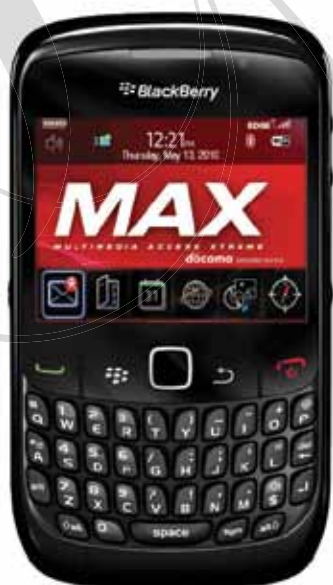
Roxanne Ferrer and Milesceelyn Rodriguez were awarded the prestigious Student Leadership award.

NMC also presented a posthumous degree to Andrew Pangelinan, who passed away in January.

Besides the top honors, the Class of 2010 selected Livia Mae Pangelinan to deliver a speech on behalf of the graduates.

The 30th commencement rites were held Saturday night at Marianas High School gymnasium and was streamed online. Saipan Southern High School's Manta Ray Band highlighted this year's graduation with a performance.

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Fitial in San Diego for \$20B military buildup conference

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Gov. Benigno R. Fitia is now in San Diego, California for a May 24 to 26 conference about the \$20 billion military buildup in the Marianas, a week after testifying at the May 18 congressional oversight hearing in Washington, D.C. on the implementation of the federalization law in the CNMI.

Fitia is expected to return to the CNMI right after the conference, so he could attend the planned May 29 indigenous rally against the U.S. Department of the Interior report on the alien worker population, said Ignacio DLG. Demapan, the newly installed executive director of the Office of Indigenous Affairs.

The rally is primarily aimed at raising the concerns of the indigenous Chamorros and Carolinians about Interior's report that includes recommendation to grant long-term immigration status to foreign workers who have been legally residing in the CNMI for at least five years.

Press secretary Angel Demapan said Fitia will be delivering the opening remarks at the conference, titled "The \$20 billion U.S. Marianas buildup conference, America's future in Asia."

Besides Fitia, Guam Gov. Felix P. Camacho and Joel A. Ayala, director of the Governor's Office of Economic Development-California, will also be speaking.

Fitia, in an April 12, 2010 letter of endorsement for the conference, said the forum will provide a showcase for the potential of the Marianas

and offer real opportunities for the people in Southern California to come back home.

"I am pleased to be attending and speaking about what the Marianas is doing to prepare for the buildup and the economic growth that will be coming to our region. The conference is a worthwhile, privately sponsored forum which will provide businesses in California and across the country valuable information about the U.S. military's plans for the Marianas. Just as important, it will provide an opportunity for U.S. business to learn why partnering with businesses in the Marianas to build opportunities and create jobs makes good business sense," Fitia said.

He also said he is determined to ensure the Marianas remains a profitable place to do business while protecting the environment and enhancing the standard of living of its people.

CNMI Commerce Secretary Michael Ada and Sherman Consulting LLC president/managing director Phillip Mendiola-Long, who is also president of the Tinian Chamber of Commerce, are among the 28 speakers at the conference.

The conference is hosted by the San Diego-based Hita I Marianas ("We Are The Marianas"). It brings together government, business and industry leaders to provide a comprehensive overview of the \$20 billion military and civilian development program planned for the Marianas region, home to the U.S. territories of the CNMI and Guam.

More information about the conference is available at www.marianasbuildup.com

Guam, as well as the CNMI,



Fitia

is gearing up to support the relocation of over 19,000 military personnel and their families, with a projected population increase of as much as 80,000 within the next decade.

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BARTENDING CHAMPION

Palms Resort Saipan's Roland Fernandez emerges as this year's champion in the Bartenders' Cocktail Competition, which is part of the many exciting events at the annual Taste of the Marianas.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Govt sues 20 more stores for expired items

The CNMI government has filed lawsuits against 20 more stores on Saipan for allegedly selling expired items without displaying notices that the merchandises have expired, among other violations of the Consumer Protection Act.

CNMI consumer counsel Michael L. Ernest asked the Superior Court to order the respondents pay civil penalties not to exceed \$2,500 for each violation of the Consumer Protection Act.

Ernest demanded attorney's fees and court costs. He also asked the court to issue an injunction barring the stores and its owners and agents from violating the Act.

Ernest said the stores, which do not have sections for expired items, offered for sale to consumers some items that had expired dates.

He said the items the items were listed at full price and were not marked as expired.

The lawyer said the Commonwealth Code declares unlawful the "stocking

of expired merchandise on shelves or on display with merchandise that has not yet reached its expiration date in manner which does not clearly segregate the expired merchandise from other merchandise.

He said the Commonwealth Code declares unlawful "selling expired merchandise without displaying a notice that the merchandise has expired."

The Code, Ernest said, also declares unlawful "selling expired merchandise at more than half of the original retail price."

The Code, he added, declares unlawful "engaging in any other conduct which similarly creates a likelihood of confusion or of misunderstanding."

He said the Code declares unlawful "engaging in any act or practice which is unfair or deceptive to the consumer."

Ernest earlier filed the same lawsuits against several other stores on Saipan. Some of the establishments settled the lawsuits with the government. (*Ferdie de la Torre*)

been in the position for many years. As far as the board is concerned, he's doing a great job as administrator," Igisomar said.

He also credited Aguon with implementing several measures that shored up the retirement program's fiscal integrity.

Aguon was hired as the Fund's administrator on a two-year contract; it is set to expire in September 2010.

He is expected to submit his resignation in accordance with the 90-day notice requirement.

Aguon has been with the Fund for about 18 years. He was first hired as a loan servicing officer of the Member Home Loan Program in 1996 and became its loan officer and manager after six months.

Saipan Tribune learned that he also

took on the additional duties of technical analyst, and then consolidated the position to become the Fund's first financial analyst.

He was later promoted to the manager's position for the Fund's investment portfolio, which he held from 2000 to 2005 until he assumed the position of director of investments. As director, Aguon reported directly to the administrator and to the board.

Aguon was later appointed as the Fund's administrator.

Just recently, the Fund created a position of deputy administrator and named its investment director, Richard Villagomez, to the position. Villagomez is tasked to assist the administrator in his multiple duties for the retirement program and other investments.

disappointed. There was so much discussion on this. Because of the economic downfall, we looked to them for their proposed investment, which was supposed to be some \$80 million. Now that will not be realized anymore," he said.

The Legislature approved Flame Sako's land lease on Feb. 4, 2009, on a 25-2 vote.

The Legislature also approved on March 6, 2009 Neo Gold Wings' land lease on a 25-3 vote.

Any lease of public land consisting of more than 5 hectares requires legislative approval.

A former manager for Flame Sako declined to comment on the issue yesterday. The company's office in Garapan has also closed.

Babauta said DPL also notified Neo Gold Wings of the termination of its land lease.

"Just like Flame Sako, we have not heard from Neo Gold Wings," he added.

In October 2009, former Public Lands Secretary John S. DelRosario warned Flame Sako and Neo Gold Wings that their land leases would be revoked by Dec. 31, 2009, for not making good on their promise to bring in millions in fresh investments to the CNMI.

The two investors had asked DPL for extensions on their lease in order to secure—through additional negotiations—the final financial commitment from investors or financing institutions, or both.

DPL granted both requests with

the firm message that both leases will be terminated if nothing pans out by way of demonstrating fund deposits at banks in the CNMI.

Babauta said he issued the notices of termination of the land lease in March, a month after Gov. Benigno R. Fitial appointed him DPL secretary.

Flame Sako held a groundbreaking ceremony for its \$80 million hotel project in Marpi on March 6, 2009, with much fanfare. It planned a six-star hotel with 357 rooms, a large water park, and a convention center that can accommodate 500 people.

Neo Gold Wings Paradise also held its groundbreaking on July 3, 2009, for its proposed development on 3 million square meters of public lands on Tinian. The project was described as a "six-star," 1,000-room mega hotel resort/golf course and casino.

Neo Gold Wings was one of three groups of investors planning to put up a casino on Tinian, which has so far seen only one casino in operation since 1998: the Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino.

The other two investor groups are the Marianas Resort Development Corp., which plans to build a \$300 million Matua Bay Resort, and Bridge Investment Group, which halted construction at the site because of uncertainties involving the federalization of CNMI immigration and the exclusion of its main target market—Chinese, along with Russian tourists—from the joint visa waiver program.

DROUGHT

From Page 1

Abe Utu Malae confirmed yesterday the anticipated drought on the islands.

"The El Niño effect reported earlier in a March advisory has resulted in extended drought conditions for Saipan in particular and will extend through June," he said.

He revealed that, according to NOAA, rainfall on Saipan was only 0.31 inch in May. The normal rainfall for the month of May is 2.89 inches.

Because of this, Malae said CUC has encountered some problems in its water distribution on Saipan. If the condition worsens, it is likely that water for all customers may be rationed out, he said.

Only 70 percent of CUC's water customers enjoy 24-hour water service. Other villages suffer from a short supply due to ongoing CUC works, replacements, and repairs.

"As a result [of the drought] and coupled with the tank coating project on Capital Hill, CUC is unable to meet the normal water schedules. In

fact, if below normal rainfall continues, rationing for all customers may need to go into effect in June," he said.

He advised the public to conserve water, fix leaks in the household, and report leaks outside homes to CUC.

Malae said the dry vegetation and shortage of water also increase the likelihood of fires.

CUC, meantime, reached its 18-month peak in power production at 42.35 megawatts for Saipan last Friday. Malae said the hot weather is increasing the air conditioning load during the day.

Malae disclosed that a commercial customer was recently discovered to have bypassed the water meter in more than one location around the same building. He said CUC intends to prosecute the matter.

"As the public may be aware, an excessive amount of water pumped from the 150 water wells is unaccounted for due to leaky underground pipes and theft. Please report any theft of water service to CUC at any of the CUC numbers, including the direct line at 235-6090," he said.

AGUON

From Page 1

Aguon is expected to turn in his resignation letter during the scheduled board meeting tomorrow, May 25.

Aguon has yet to respond to *Saipan Tribune's* e-mail questions as of press time yesterday.

Board of trustees chair Sixto Igisomar would neither confirm nor deny the information, saying he has yet to receive any formal notice from the administrator. "I have heard about it [his resignation]...but has yet to receive a formal letter," Igisomar said.

He described Aguon as a dedicated employee of the Fund and a longtime asset. "I can say that Mark has been a good employee of the Fund and has

notified by DEQ.

CHC

From Page 1

2; Kannat Gardens; Mountain Fresh Water; Sablan Enterprises in Chalan Piao, Chalan Kanoa, and San Jose; and Micro Beach Hotel—failed to monitor their public water systems for chemical contaminants from January to December 2009, in violation of CNMI Drinking Water Regulations.

DEQ director Frank Rabauliman, in separate notices, said these entities have to perform the required sampling as soon possible, but no later than June 30, 2010.

CHC and the eight other public water systems were also required to notify their customers and staff of the monitoring violation by hand delivery and by continuous posting in conspicuous places within the area served by their water systems.

If these entities fail to take steps to correct the violations, DEQ may issue an administrative order than can include administrative fines.

The maximum penalty authorized for violations of the CNMI Drinking Water Regulations is \$25,000 per day of violation for each violation.

Marvin Seman of DEQ's Safe Drinking Water Branch said the adult correctional facility in Susupe used to be on the list of violators but the prison shut down its reverse osmosis system and directly hooked to the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. even before moving any of the prisoners to the facility. The \$20.9-million facility's reverse osmosis system is no longer considered a public water system.

No nitrate monitoring

DEQ also cited four entities for failing to monitor their public water systems for nitrate.

The division ordered Palms Resort dormitory, Palms Resort/Nikko Hotel entry point, M. Corp. Building II, and Stanford Resort to perform the required sampling as soon as possible.

They are required to monitor for nitrate on an annual basis until further

No lead and copper monitoring
DEQ cited five entities for not testing their public water system for lead and copper between January and December 2009.

These include JG Sablan Ice and Water, Tinian Crystal Clear Ice and Water, World International Corp. Apartment, Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino, and Mountain Fresh Water.

These public water systems are required to perform the sampling as soon as possible, but no later than Dec. 31, 2010.

Disinfection byproducts

DEQ also cited 18 entities, including JG Sablan Ice and Water, Palms Resort, and Stanford Resort Hotel, for failing to monitor their public water systems for disinfection byproducts.

The division ordered to perform the required sampling as soon as possible, but no later than Dec. 31, 2010.

Total coliform bacteria, other violations

DEQ cited Marianas Ice & Water Co. and Pizza Hut for having public water systems that had exceeded the maximum contaminant level for total coliform bacteria.

The division cited Sun Palace Hotel for not conducting a sanitary survey of its public water system at least once every three years, for designating a water operator who is not certified, for a non-certified water operator, and for not updating its coliform monitoring plan.

The division cited Maytenth Building II also for not conducting a sanitary inspection of its public water system at least once every three years.

DEQ said that Maytenth Building II's water well head and treatment station are not securely locked. It also said that the building's pump that supplies water to the distribution system is also used to pump water from the rainwater storage tank, and this connection could lead to contamination. The building also has an on overflow pipe which could also lead to contamination of the water system.

US Marshals refuses to take custody of ex-convict Basa

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Superior Court Associate Judge Kenneth Govendo has set aside the guilty plea entered last March 4 by Melvin N. Basa, a convicted robber who was ordered last February by the federal court to spend 29 months in prison for violating his probation.

Govendo also restored the other charges filed against Basa that were earlier dismissed as part of the plea agreement.

The judge set a status conference in the case for Thursday, May 27.

Govendo issued the decision after the defendant's counsel and the prosecution filed a joint request to set aside the plea.

Assistant Public Defender Richard C. Miller, counsel for Basa, and assistant attorney general Brian Gallagher, who represented the government, filed last Wednesday a motion asking the court to set aside the plea and reset the matter for a status conference as soon as possible.

Last March 4, Govendo accepted Basa's change of plea from not guilty to guilty on criminal trespass, and assault with a dangerous weapon.

Man loses forearm, sues govt, CHC

A man has filed a lawsuit against the Commonwealth Health Center for alleged negligence that caused the amputation of his forearm after surgery.

Miguel Magofna Camacho sued the government and the Department of Public's Commonwealth Health Center for negligence.

Camacho's four minor children also joined as co-plaintiffs in the lawsuit. Margaret Ayuyu, mother of the minors, is representing the children. They sued the defendants for loss of consortium.

The plaintiffs, through counsel Michael Dotts, asked the Superior Court to order the defendants to pay the damages, attorney's fees, and court costs.

Dotts stated in the complaint that the government was given written notice of Camacho's claim on Oct. 30, 2009, and the opportunity to investigate and address the claim.

"As of May 13, 2010, the Commonwealth had still not responded to the notice, allowing plaintiff to proceed with this action," Dotts said.

The lawyer stated in the complaint that on Feb. 7, 2009, Camacho sought treatment at CHC for a broken arm and his condition was complicated by the fact that he suffers from hemophilia.

CHC physicians installed a rod the length of Camacho's forearm.

Dotts said as a result of the procedure performed by CHC on Camacho's arm, Camacho bled inside his arm causing severe tissue damage.

Dotts said the defendants

Govendo then sentenced the defendant to 29 months in jail to be served concurrently with the 29-month jail term imposed by the federal court.

In their motion to set aside, Miller and Gallagher said they contemplated that Basa would immediately be taken into federal custody and begin serving concurrent time.

However, the two lawyers said, the U.S. Marshals Service has refused to take custody of Basa.

Miller and Gallagher said the position of the U.S., communicated to the parties by representatives of the Marshals Service and the federal Bureau of Prisons, is that because Basa was in state (CNMI) custody when he was sentenced on the federal case on Feb. 26, 2010, he must complete his state time before he begins serving federal time.

"The result would be that Mr. Basa would serve consecutive, not concurrent, sentences on the two cases, contrary to the terms and intent of Mr. Basa's agreement with the Commonwealth," Miller and Gallagher said.

On Nov. 30, 2009, police arrested Basa for reportedly attacking the parents of his wife with a knife at their residence in As Lito.

Prior to the attack, Basa, who was drunk, had an argument with his wife.

Basa tried to stab his mother-in-law with a knife, but his father-in-law pushed him away. As Basa and his father-in-law struggled, both fell to the floor.

The father-in-law managed to free himself and enter the house. Basa started stabbing the door of the house with the knife. The defendant damaged the screen of the window as he tried to force himself in.

Basa later fled.

The incident prompted the U.S. Probation Office to recommend to the federal court the revocation of Basa's probation.

Last Feb. 26, the federal court revoked the supervised release of Basa and ordered him to spend 29 months in prison.

Munson required Basa to participate in a substance abuse and anger management programs as well as the 500 hours of drug treatment program.

In February 2000, the federal court sentenced the defendant to 102 months in jail for robbery. His probation was modified several times for not complying with the conditions. In May 2008, the court sentenced him to seven months in jail for violating his probation.

failed to properly treat Camacho's arm with antibiotics and his arm because infected.

He said by the time that Camacho was referred for proper treatment by physicians competent to handle the complications of Camacho's hemophilia, his right forearm required amputation.

"Defendants breached their duty of care to Camacho in one or more of the following ways: by performing an overly inva-

sive procedure to address his broken arm, by not properly treating Camacho with antibiotics following his surgery, and by not properly responding to Camacho's hemophilia," he said.

Defendants, according to the lawyer, further breached their duty of care by failing to properly advise Camacho of the risk of loss his arm if he did not obtain specialized care off-island. (Ferdie de la Torre)



GUEST SPEAKER

Former governor Juan N. Babauta was the guest speaker in Green Meadow School's 7th annual commencement exercises last Friday. He is seen here delivering his inspirational remarks to the young graduates of the school.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Congratulations Graduate!

CLASS OF 2010

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KagES raises \$21K in cultural day fundraising

» 'Moses, Teregeyo hailed King and Queen'

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Kagman Elementary School raised over \$21,000 for its students' immediate needs during the 10th Annual Cultural Day Friday night.

The event is the school's biggest fundraiser of the year and attracted hundreds of guests and spectators from the community who enjoyed the evening's entertainment and presentations, foods and crafts offering from vendors, and games for children.

Hailed as this year's Cultural

Day King and Queen were Harry Wayne Moses II and Mariana Vicente C. Teregeyo, respectively.

Kagman Elementary School principal Ignacia Demapan expressed her gratitude to the parents and families of the students for their consistent support to the school's fundraising event.

She said the \$21,000 netted in the occasion will be used in buying the school's playground equipment and pay for the balance of the school uniform owed to vendors. The rest will be used in the immediate needs of the students next school year.

According to the principal, this year's amount almost tripled 2009's net of about \$7,000.

She lauded the active involvement of the students' parents and teachers who made the event a great success.

The theme for the celebration on Friday was "Culture: Our lifetime from the past to the present through the future" which was submitted by second grader Keith Villagomez.

Prior to the occasion, the school conducted several competitions related to the cultural day. In the logo contest, adjudged winner was fifth grader Nikela Masayos, while third grader Mark Manahane topped the essay writing competition.

"Culture is a way of life from when we are born until the day you die....culture is learning and doing the same your mother and father taught you. Remember the steps they tell you so that when you grow up you can tell your kids the culture you learned so they can pass on the traditions to the next generations. If you don't learn about it you can't teach it..." Manahane told the crowd in the jam-packed school cafeteria.

The event was keynoted by John Oliver Gonzales.

'Big prizes'

This year's celebration not only featured a presentation of the royal court but also a raffle drawing with big prizes for ticket winners, including \$1,000 cash prize for the



MONETH G. DEPOSA
Kindergarten students of Kagman Elementary School perform a special Hawaiian dance number during Friday night's 10th Annual Cultural Day.



MONETH G. DEPOSA

"Prisoners" wait for their families and friends to bail them out during the cultural day festivities on campus.



MONETH G. DEPOSA

Mariana Vicente C. Teregeyo, center, smiles after being crowned Kagman Elementary School's 2010 Cultural Day Queen during the celebration on Friday night.

grand winner; \$500 for the second; and the latest cellular phone model for the third grand prize. Valuable items and gift certificates were also among the consolation prizes given away.

Besides the traditional food attractions, this year's celebration was also highlighted by mini fundraisers by school organizations such as the "Campus Jail" where "prisoners" were bailed out by their friends and family.

Teachers also presented a special cultural fashion show where they showcased the various costumes of different nationalities.



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FROM SCHOOL YEAR 2003-2009

Over 5K kids served by PSS special ed and early intervention programs

By **MONETH G. DEPOSA**
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A total of 5,099 children and individuals were served under the Public School System's special education and early intervention programs from 2003 to 2009.

Data released by the Board of Education indicated that children who received special education are those between 3 to 21 years old which totaled 4,743 as of last year.

In school year 2004, PSS' special education program recorded 751 enrollees; 750 in 2005; 774 in 2006; 784 in 2007; 816 in 2008; and 868 in 2009.

Special education is served to individuals who were determined to have a disability and need specialized instruction and possibly related service.

The determination, according to PSS, is made by a team of individuals, including the parent who use variety of information such as informal and formal assessment results, academic records, teacher made tests and quizzes, behavior and discipline records, as well as attendance records.

There were 14 types of disabling categories in the PSS and these include autism, deaf-blind, deafness, hearing im-

pairment, mental retardation, multiple disabilities, orthopedic impairments, and others.

For the early intervention program, number of children served from birth to three years totaled 356 as of 2009. Records show that in 2003 the program served 40 toddlers; 47 in 2004; 57 in 2005; 58 in 2006; 50 in 2007; 54 in 2008; and 50 in 2009.

Early intervention applies to children of school age or younger who were discovered to have or be at risk of developing a handicapping condition or other special need that may affect their development. Early intervention can be remedial or preventive in nature—remediating existing developmental problems or

preventing their occurrence.

The services offered may focus on the child alone or on the child and the family together and maybe center-based, home-based, hospital-based, or a combination.

Services range from identification—that is, hospital or school screening and referral services—to diagnostic and direct intervention programs. Early intervention may begin at any time between birth and school age; however, there are many reasons for it to begin as early as possible.

Funding for both programs is sourced from federal grants received by PSS under the Part B and Part C of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act.

BIRTHDAY SHOUTOUTS



Happy birthday to Dr. Alan Stuart Markoff, who is celebrating his birthday today, May 24. "We wish you a happiness and joy in life and many more birthdays to bring you delight," according to the management and staff of Toothworks Dental Clinic.



Happy 15th birthday Carla. Greetings from Dad, Mom, your brothers and your kbarangays from Garapan.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950



INVITATION FOR BID PSS IFB 10-055

"ELECTRICAL UPGRADE AT ROTA HIGH SCHOOL ON ROTA"

The Public School System and the State Board of Education are soliciting sealed bids for the **Electrical Upgrade at Rota High School** on Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The scope of work and project package is available beginning on May 17, 2010 at Pacific Quick Print for a fee of \$38.60.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CNMI Public School Procurement Rules and Regulations, as revised through June 5, 1998, and in accordance with ARRA Section 1605, "BUY AMERICAN REQUIREMENTS". Bidding Procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 60-40-205 of the PSS Regulations, "Competitive Sealed Bidding".

There will be a mandatory pre-bid conference on Friday, June 3, 2010, at 2:00 p.m., local time, at the Rota High School Library on Rota. Bids will not be accepted from any bidder who failed to attend this pre-bid conference. Questions may be submitted in writing to Fax No. (670) 323-1075 or emailed to Ms. Elizabeth S. Balajadia at lizb@emchen.com no later than June 8, 2010, 4:30 p.m.

All bids must be in a sealed envelope marked, IFB-10-055, and submitted with one (1) original and five (5) copies to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building in Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than 2:00 p.m., local time, June 11, 2010 at which time the bids will be publicly open in the PSS Conference Room, 3rd Floor, NMI Retirement Fund Building. Any bids submitted after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

This project is funded under the AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT (ARRA) with "Buy America" Provisions.

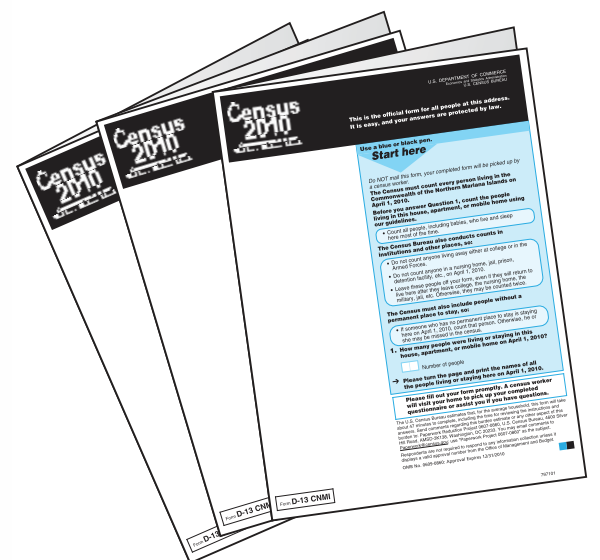
/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed. D.
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Robert Florian
Procurement Officer

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Siemer guest speaker at SHRM meeting

Labor volunteer and respected lawyer Deanne Siemer will be the special guest speaker of the Society for Human Resource Management CNMI Chapter's May general membership meeting this Thursday, May 27, at the Fiesta Resort and Spa Saipan.

The lunch meeting will be from 11:30am to 1:30pm in the hotel's Azucena Room and Siemer's will present, via video teleconference, her topic "The Impact of Public Law 17-1 Rules and Regulations on Employers & Contract Workers." This timely presentation is open to the public and will be

an invaluable opportunity for both employers and employees to learn more about the new employment rules and regulations for the recently passed Public Law 17-1, which amends Public Law 15-108 (Commonwealth Employment Act of 2007).

Siemer will explain, through the power of modern teleconferencing technology, how the CNMI Department of Labor has been restructured and what its new role is with regard to employment of citizens, permanent residents, foreign national workers, and nonimmigrant aliens in the Commonwealth.

She will also summarize the new workforce participation and job preference requirements as well as the rules and regulations for umbrella permits, worker transfers, alien worker

registration and identification cards, labor investigations, dispute resolution, reporting requirements, nonresident ownership in CNMI businesses, and the new labor fee schedule.

The consequences of not following the new rules and regulations (i.e., possible imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or fine of not more than \$500 or both) will be discussed and the session will conclude with a question and answer period.

The presentation includes lunch and the cost is \$20 for SHRM members and \$30 for non-members. Seats are limited, so reserve your seat by contacting Polly Deleon Guerrero (SHRM CNMI Chapter Vice President) at the PIC at 237-5122 or e-mail Eric Plinske (SHRM CNMI Chapter President) at ericplinske@yahoo.com.

SHRM is the world's largest association devoted to human resource management. Representing more than 250,000 individual members, the society's mission is to serve the needs of HR professionals by providing the most essential and comprehensive resources available.

As an influential voice, the society's mission is also to advance the human resource profession to ensure that HR is recognized as an essential partner in developing and executing organizational strategy. The CNMI Chapter is composed of human resource professionals from a variety of industries, large and small, who recognize a need for a local society for professionals in the human resource field. The CNMI Chapter is affiliated with the national organization. (SHRM)

Military training on FDM May 27

The Emergency Management Office said U.S. Naval Force Marianas Guam will be conducting military training on Farallon De Mendenilla on May 27, from 7am to 8pm.

The general locations for this activity will be on the training area of Farallon De Mendenilla (R7201) on a 10-nautical mile radius on all quadrants.

Due to the danger imposed by this activity, Acting Gov. Eloy S. Inos is advising the general public—especially fishermen, commercial pilots, and marine tour operators—to stay away from this area during the time and date indicated. The cooperation and understanding of the general public is greatly appreciated.

Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Emergency Management Office, Operations Section at telephone numbers 322-9528 and 322-9529, VHF Marine CHNL 16, and HF Single Side Band Radio on 5.205.0 or dial CNMI 211 for this advisory. (EMO)

Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

May 24, 1999

Illegal workers have 8 more days to register

Some 2,650 illegal workers in the Northern Marianas have come out of hiding and sought the limited amnesty offer by the government, but the number falls short of the projected 5,000 to 15,000 overstaying aliens on the island. Implemented last December, the six-month program ends on June 1 when the Department of Labor and Immigration begins a massive manhunt against illegals who have ignored the immunity grant, according to task force chief Jeff Camacho. As of May 14, there were 1,357 overstaying Filipino workers who had registered at the department under the program, 970 Chinese, 214 Bangladeshis, 50 Koreans, 17 Sri Lankans, 15 Nepalese, eight Japanese, four Hong Kong nationals and two Pakistanis.

Privatization of CPA tower underway

Negotiations between the Commonwealth Ports Authority and the Federal Aviation Administration for a private contract arrangement of Saipan tower operation looks bright, according to CPA Executive Director Carlos H. Salas. FAA has approved Saipan as one of the sites under its jurisdiction to participate in the Federal Control Tower program which would save the cash-strapped ports authority some \$600,000 a year or eight percent of the \$9 million airport expense in operations. But instead of hiring another company, Salas has proposed to FAA that it enter into a sole source agreement with the CNMI so that it can still be the contract vehicle to provide the air tower control services. He noted that a similar arrangement has already been made at South Lake Tahoe, California with a weather contract.

May 24, 2000

Hopwood teachers welcome PSS' decision

Petitioners seeking the ouster of Hopwood Junior High School Principal Lourdes Mendiola yesterday welcomed the decision by the Public School system to transfer the embattled school official beginning next school year. Fifty-one teachers and staff who met the other night after acting Education Commissioner Louise Concepcion reached a conclusion on Mrs. Mendiola's case, said they are not likely to appeal the decision. "The consensus is pretty much the same between all of us. Everything looks like it will not be appealed by the teachers because the decision is acceptable," said 7th grade social studies teacher Matthew Wertz.

Teno renews plea to Legislature

Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio yesterday renewed his appeal to the Legislature to enact legislation that will allow individual payment of electricity and water bills by each department and agency in an effort to encourage conservation in public offices and reduce their overall utilities costs. He said he has been asking lawmakers to change the current set-up where the executive branch is responsible for all government utilities, including those from Rota and Tinian municipalities as well as legislative and judicial offices. "That was the recommendation I suggested. However, the Legislature did not take that into consideration," the governor told reporters in an interview.


May 24, 2001

New Eurotex owners need \$1M to operate

The Saipan Garment Manufacturers' Association said new owners of bankrupt garment firm Eurotex would have to invest at least \$1 million to resurrect its operations. SGMA Executive Director Richard A. Pierce said a substantial amount of money would be needed to upgrade Eurotex's old and decrepit facilities to enable it to pass local and federal health and safety laws and requirements. "Our opinion is that it would require nearly another \$1 million to qualify for occupancy at its work stations and dormitories," he said.

Expedited creation of telecom panel sought

Senate Vice President Thomas Villagomez yesterday urged members of the CNMI Legislature to work together to address problems blocking the swift creation of Telecommunication Commission. The call stemmed from recent discussion at the House of Representatives on the legality of its authority to confirm any nominees for the commission. The lower house adopted Wednesday five house resolutions supporting the nomination of Isidro K. Seman, Josephine Dlg. Mesta. Norman T. Tenorio, Michael J. Fritzgerald, and Victor B. Hocog, who will serve as members of the commission.


**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY
CNMI GOVERNMENT**
REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL
RFP10-DOC-106

SUBMISSION: JUNE 04, 2010 • TIME: 10:00 A.M.

**"2ND ECONOMIC RESTORATION AND
14TH MICRONESIAN CHIEF EXECUTIVE SUMMIT"**

THE RFP PACKAGE MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY IN LOWERBASE, SAIPAN DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.


A MANDATORY PRE-PROPOSAL MEETING WILL BE ON **MAY 26, 2010 AT 10:00 A.M.** IN THE 2ND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM OF THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE BUILDING IN CAPITOL HILL, SAIPAN.


QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS RFP MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO MR. SIXTO K. IGISOMAR, DEPUTY SECRETARY OF COMMERCE VIA E-MAIL TO deputyigisomar@commerce.gov.mp OR FAX TO (670) 664-3067 NO LATER THAN **4:30 PM, LOCAL TIME, MAY 26, 2010.**

THIS IS A FEDERALLY FUNDED PROJECT; AS SUCH, LOCAL PREFERENCE IS NOT AVAILABLE, BECAUSE IT IS PROHIBITED BY FEDERAL LAW GRANTING FUNDING FOR THIS PROJECT.

/s/ MICHAEL J. ADA
Secretary of Commerce

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director, P&S


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INVITATION FOR BID
NMHC IFB 2010-R-003

(This ad is paid for by NMHC with HUD funds)

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) Board of Directors, hereby give notice that NMHC is soliciting sealed bids for the **Construction of the Tinian Amphitheater Parking Lot Infiltration System** in San Jose Village, Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The project package consisting of Technical Specifications, Plans and Bid Documents will be available on or after Monday, May 03, 2010, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays. A non-refundable payment of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) is required for each set. Payment shall be by money order or cashier's check (payable to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation).

Bidding procedures shall be in compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, however, Article 7, "Local Business Preference" as amended by Public Law 15-95 and further amended by Public Law 15-118, **is not available** to local bidders in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funding for this project.

Bidders are also advised that this project is subject to compliance with the Davis-Bacon Act. All wage rates for laborers, mechanics and all other employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid the current minimum wage or the wage determination for the Commonwealth as required by the CNMI law/Federal law, whichever is higher.

A **pre-bid conference** will be held at **10:00 a.m. on Thursday, May 27, 2010**, at the Tinian Amphitheater in San Jose Village, Tinian and all interested bidders will be given the opportunity to walk through the proposed project, familiarize themselves with the required work and ask questions regarding the project. Attendance at this conference and site visit are considered essential to the bidders' understanding of the project elements and a company that does not have a representative in attendance at the pre-bid conference will be considered as a non-responsive bidder.

Sealed Bids must be marked **"NMHC IFB2010-R-003"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and three (3) copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director, Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than **10:00 a.m., local time, Monday, June 07, 2010**. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to Bid. Notices of Intent to Bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m., local time, June 07, 2010 and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515 or via e-mail to procurement@pricom.com. For bidders located outside of the CNMI, an original and three (3) copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U. S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than June 07, 2010, AND must be received by Procurement and Supply no later than June 16, 2010. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10:00 a.m. local time, June 17, 2010. However, if no Notices of Intent to Bid are received from bidders outside of the CNMI, the bids will be opened at 10:00 a.m., local time, June 07, 2010.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$25,000.00), a bid security of fifteen percent (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. This security may be in the form of a Certified Check, Cashier's Check, or Bid Bond. Checks must be made payable to the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC), with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: **"Construction of the Tinian Amphitheater Parking Lot Infiltration System"**. Surety companies must hold a Certificate of Authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General.

The bidder submitting the lowest responsible bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the NMIAC §70.30.3.301 of the CNMI Procurement Regulations. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with NMHC and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment Bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than \$25,000. Pursuant to Governor's Directive 251 dated March 15, 2006, bidders are required to include a Clearance from the Office of the Insurance Commissioner with respect to the financial bonding capability of the bidders' chosen Surety. In addition, the contractor will be required to deliver a certification from the bonding company that the unencumbered value of its assets (exclusive of all outstanding commitments or other bond obligations) exceeded the penal amount of each bond.

Performance time for completion of this project is ninety (90) calendar days upon issuance of an official written Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for the delays beyond the established completion date will be assessed at Five Hundred Dollars (US\$500.00) per calendar day.

This project is funded by a grant from the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), under its Community Development Block Grant, American Recovery and Reinvestment (CDBG-R) funding provided to the Commonwealth that mandates ALL MATERIALS PURCHASED AND INCORPORATED INTO THE BUILDING/WORK MUST BE MANUFACTURED OR PRODUCED IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.


This project which goal is to provide economic stimulus as well as jobs creation is also subject to Section 3 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1968 which requires recipients of HUD funds and the contractors to help insure that the economic opportunities generated by these HUD funds are provided to local low-income residents and the businesses that serve them "to the maximum extent feasible."

NMHC hereby notifies bidders that it will affirmatively insure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, women and small business enterprises will be afforded full opportunity to submit proposals and will not be discriminated against on grounds of race, color, national origin, political affiliation, creed, sex, religion, age, familial status, and disability status.

The Government reserves the right to reject any and all proposals and to waive any defects in the said proposals, if in the sole opinion of NMHC, to do so would be in its best interest. All proposals will become the property of the Government.

/s/
Marcie M. Tomokane
Board Chairwoman & Contracting Officer

/s/
Herman S. Sablan, Director
Division of Procurement & Supply


NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

Businessman sues over amputation of middle finger

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A businessman has filed a lawsuit over the amputation of his left middle finger when a friend attacked him with a sashimi knife during his birthday party at a restaurant.

Ming Hao Li, operator of Tai Yang Restaurant, sued his alleged attacker, Young Su Moon, for assault, battery, and intentional infliction of emotional distress.

Li also sued Moon's employer, Han Kuk Pan Yun, for negligent hiring, supervision, and retention of Moon, and for emotional distress.

Li's wife, Shunnu Li, joined as co-plaintiff in the lawsuit. The couple asked the Superior Court to order the defendants to pay them damages, attorney's fees, and court costs.

According to plaintiffs' counsel Ramon K. Quichocho, defendant Yun owns the Pajugal Restaurant in Chalan Kanoa which

is also known as IMF Restaurant Fresh Sashimi House.

Quichocho said Moon was an employee or agent of Yun.

Quichocho said the Li couple regularly bought their daily fish requirements for Tai Yang Restaurant from Yun, through its employee, Moon.

Quichocho said that, on March 3, 2010, Moon, as part of his regular marketing routine for Yun, visited plaintiffs at their Tai Yang Restaurant to book the couple's order for fresh fish for the day.

At the time Moon arrived, the couple were about to start celebrating Mr. Li's birthday that day.

Moon joined plaintiffs and started drinking alcoholic beverages. The couple later called a Chinese female friend to join in the celebration.

Quichocho said that, at 8:30pm, Mr. Li danced with their female friend, but suddenly, Moon in an apparent fit of jealousy, went to the kitchen of

the restaurant and took a sashimi/sushi knife.

The lawyer said Moon then attacked Mr. Li and at the same time shouted invectives and offensive words against the victim.

Quichocho said Mrs. Li attempted to intercede and pleaded with Moon to prevent him from further attacking Mr. Li.

Moon, however, pushed Ms. Li to the floor twice, Quichocho said.

Despite plaintiffs begging and pleas, the lawyer said, Moon continued attacking Mr. Li with the knife.

"Mr. Li attempted to parry Moon's knife attacks with a wooden chair, when, in the process, his left hand's middle finger, and other fingers, were caught by the knife's sharp blade, causing the serious injuries," Quichocho said.

As a result, Quichocho said, Mr. Li lost his left hand middle finger that was severely and deeply cut, causing it to be permanently amputated.

Bordallo, Cheadle meet on environmental

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Guam Delegate Madeleine Z. Bordallo met with Oscar-nominated actor Don Cheadle and the Pew Environment Group at her office in the Cannon House Office Building last week.

Cheadle was on Capitol Hill to talk to Bordallo about his work in international conser-

vation work and to advocate a stronger U.S. involvement in global natural resource and biodiversity conservation.

Cheadle was nominated for an Oscar for his portrayal of Paul Rusesabagina in the 2004 movie Hotel Rwanda. He has also starred in the films Iron Man 2, Ocean's Thirteen, Crash,

and many others.

"Celebrities help to call attention to important issues and I appreciate Don Cheadle's support of our committee's efforts to pass conservation and wildlife protection legislation in Congress and to promote international conservation," Bordallo said. **(PR)**



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950



INVITATION FOR BID PSS IFB 10-056

"ELECTRICAL UPGRADE AT HOPWOOD JR. HIGH SCHOOL AND DANDAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL"

The Public School System and the State Board of Education are soliciting sealed bids for the **Electrical Upgrade at Hopwood Jr. High School and Dandan Elementary School** on Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The scope of work and project package is available beginning on May 17, 2010 at Pacific Quick Print for a fee of \$43.70.

This procurement is made in accordance with the CNMI Public School Procurement Rules and Regulations, as revised through June 5, 1998, and in accordance with ARRA Section 1605, "BUY AMERICAN REQUIREMENTS". Bidding Procedures shall be in full compliance with Section 60-40-205 of the PSS Regulations, "Competitive Sealed Bidding".

There will be a mandatory pre-bid conference on Friday, June 4, 2010, at 10:00 a.m., local time, at the Hopwood Jr. High School Library on Saipan. Bids will not be accepted from any bidder who failed to attend this pre-bid conference. Questions may be submitted in writing to Fax No. (670) 323-1075 or emailed to Ms. Elizabeth S. Balajadia at lizb@emchen.com no later than June 8, 2010, 4:30 p.m.

All bids must be in a sealed envelope marked, IFB-10-056, and submitted with one (1) original and five (5) copies to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building in Capitol Hill, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m., local time, June 11, 2010 at which time the bids will be publicly open in the PSS Conference Room, 3rd Floor, NMI Retirement Fund Building. Any bids submitted after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

This project is funded under the AMERICAN RECOVERY AND REINVESTMENT ACT (ARRA) with "Buy America" Provisions.

/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed. D.
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Robert Florian
Procurement Officer



Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands
State Board of Education
Public School System
P. O. Box 501370, Saipan, MP 96950



REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS PSS RFP 10-057

"EXTERNAL EVALUATOR FOR PSS T&FASEG PROGRAM"

The CNMI Public School System is soliciting competitive sealed proposals for an "External Evaluator for its T&FASEG Program". The Scope of Work will be available beginning Monday, May 17, 2010 at the PSS Procurement & Supply Office located on the 3rd floor of the NMI Retirement Fund Building, Capitol Hill, Saipan, CNMI.

Questions may be faxed to Jackie A. Quitugua, Associate Commissioner for Instructional Services at 664.3796 or e-mailed to jackiequitugua@gmail.com no later than Wednesday, May 26, 2010.

Proposals shall be in a sealed envelope marked "RFP 10-057" containing (1) Original and Three (3) copies and submitted to the PSS Procurement and Supply Office **no later than 10:00 AM Friday, May 28, 2010**. Any proposals submitted after the aforementioned date and time will not be accepted under any circumstances.

This project is funded through a grant under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

/s/ Rita A. Sablan, Ed.D.
Commissioner of Education

/s/ Robert Florian
P&S Officer



Commonwealth Utilities Corporation
Office of the Executive Director



INVITATION FOR BID CUC-IFB-10-034

REHABILITATION OF THE AGINGAN WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

The Office of the Governor, Benigno R. Fitial and the office of Lt. Governor, Eloy S. Inos through the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation are soliciting competitive sealed bids for the Rehabilitation of the the Agingan Wastewater Treatment Plant in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

A Pre-Bid conference for this project is scheduled at 9:00 AM., on June 4, 2010, at the CUC Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building Saipan. A project site visit and inspection follows the Pre-Bid meeting.

A non-refundable payment of \$200 will be required for each set of Plans, Specification, and Proposal Forms, and will be made available for pick-up, on or after May 28, 2010 at the CUC Water-Wastewater Division Office the 3rd Floor, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Dandan, Saipan,

One (1) original and five (7) copies must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "CUC-IFB-10-034, REHABILITATION OF THE AGINGAN WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No.4, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than June 29, 2010** at 10:00 AM, (CHST) local time, at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Late submissions will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of 15 percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury. A performance and payment bond of hundred (100%) percent each of the total proposal price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. Surety companies must hold a certificate of authority from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety for proposal security. The Contractor will be required to submit payment and performance bonds from a U.S. Treasury listed company. No advance payment will be authorized on the project or an Irrevocable Letter of Credit (100% aggregate contract cost/CUC Beneficiary) or a payment bond. All insurers questions, concerns and qualification be should handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.

The bidder is required to submit a copy of his CNMI Business license in compliance with the Contractor's Registration and Licensing Laws of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, upon award of the contract. The Contractor and all subcontractors will be obligated to pay wage rates not less than the current CNMI minimum wage, prevailing through the period of contract, as indicated in the web page - <http://www.dol.gov/esa/minwage/cnmi/cnmi.htm>. The contractor will also be required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws.

This project is funded by a grant from the Office of Insular Affairs (OIA), Department of Interior. Progress payments shall be made to the Contractor.

The project consists, in general, of rehabilitating and upgrading the Agingan Wastewater Treatment Plant. The work shall be done in sequence as necessary in order not to disrupt the daily operation of the treatment plant. The work is inclusive of rehabilitation of the Belt Filter Press equipment, replacement of pumps, emptying and clean up of all the basins, repair, replacement, rehabilitation of pipeline, manifolds, clarifier mechanism and accessories, etc.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the interest of the government.

All technical and procurement inquiries should be directed to Capt. Robert Lorenz, CUC Waste/Wastewater Engineer via email robert_lorenz@cucgov.net, Christy Lazaro, CUC Waste/Wastewater Engineer via email Ms. Christi@cucgov.net. & Manny B. Sablan, Jr., CUC Procurement & Supply Manager via email msablan@cucgov.net.

/s/ ABE U. MALAE

Assistant Executive Director for Operation

/s/ ANTONIO S. MUNA

Executive Director

Opinion

Hafa Adai!

Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, CNMI
Mailing Address: PMB 34, Box 10001, Saipan, MP 96950Jayvee L. Vallejera EDITOR
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EDITORIAL

The starving can't wait

A close observer of current events could be forgiven for thinking that world hunger is waning, given that the issue has largely disappeared from headlines since the global food crisis that led to riots in 2008. Sadly, the opposite is true. Continued high food prices, drought and a worldwide recession that has reduced remittances from immigrant workers in developing countries have all contributed to swelling the ranks of chronically hungry people.

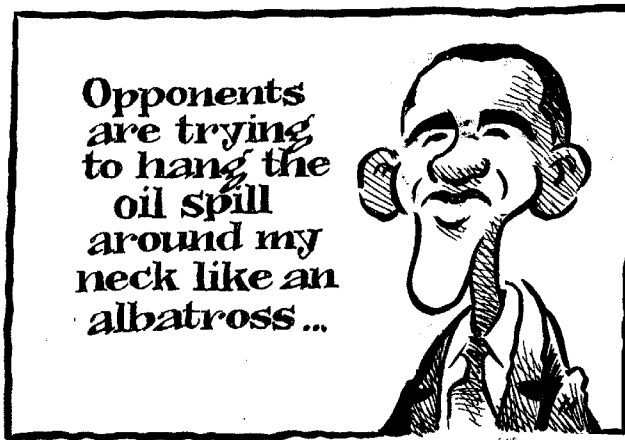
Although development experts need to address the global shortfalls in production, distribution problems and other underlying causes of famine, the immediate challenge always is to feed the hungry. In 2007, the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization reported 923 million undernourished people worldwide, an increase of 80 million over 1992. Last fall, the organization counted more than 1 billion hungry people—an estimated 15 percent of the world's population—up by nearly 80 million in just two years. Population growth, rural-to-urban migration and other factors mean the numbers will continue to rise over the coming decades. This is dispiriting news by any measure, but there is at least some progress to report in U.S. efforts to feed the hungry.

The United States is the world's largest food donor, and historically the U.S. government has required that its food aid be purchased at home and shipped by American companies to the countries in need. International aid organizations have long argued that this is expensive and inefficient, and most other developed countries have made the switch to cash allocations that allow the food to be purchased where it makes the most sense—sometimes in the donor countries, but more often in the region where it will be consumed. Now the U.S. is beginning to follow suit with pilot programs that allow aid groups to buy food elsewhere, rather than exclusively in the United States, or to distribute vouchers to the poor.

The pilot programs, begun under the George W. Bush administration and advanced under President Obama, can cut the cost of food aid by up to one-third in parts of Africa, according to the Government Accountability Office, and deliver the goods three times as fast. For the hungry, that can mean the difference between life and death. Right now, that life-and-death struggle is most acute and concentrated in the West African nation of Niger, where drought has devastated the grain harvest and there is fear of a famine even more widespread than one in 2005. More than 2 million people already require food assistance, and the government estimates that about half of the country's 15 million people are at risk. The U.N. special envoy to Niger declared the problem a disaster in January, clearing the way for international humanitarian aid that needs to be in place by summer. Disturbingly, food shipped directly from the United States today probably wouldn't arrive until fall, whereas food from the region could be delivered within a couple of months.

The amount of food aid funds authorized for local and regional purchases through the pilot programs is relatively small—about \$325 million of the \$1.9 billion in U.S. food aid this year. Yet groups that distribute sustenance to the hungry, such as the U.N. World Food Program and the not-for-profit Mercy Corps, say it is a good beginning that gives them more flexibility to address a variety of problems. In some instances, famine is caused by a failed harvest and there simply is no food in the region. In those cases, it may still make the most sense to buy food in the United States. Sometimes the problem is limited to one country in a region or to a certain part of the country, and food is readily available for purchase nearby; buying it there cuts transporta-

See STARVING on Page 13



It's time for a major change in CUC operation

The following comments are not directed as an attack on anyone or group. It is an appeal for improving what makes our life comfortable and a bit more civilized. We must revitalize the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. now! This discussion has been kicked around for years. Please let's do the right thing and admit that we cannot handle it. The CUC should not be a political football. It is the basis for a civilized community. It affects not only us but all our visitors and investors. Please let's get serious!

The problem has been chronic over 30 years, and we seem incapable of correcting it. Isn't it time to take drastic action and make the necessary changes? Don't you feel that we have suffered enough abuse over the years?

When I moved from Hawaii to Saipan in January, 1984, I rented a house in China Town. I found the electricity was constantly on and off. If not off, the power fluctuated erratically. Having just moved from Hawaii, I thought, "Oh my, where have I moved to?"

This kind of utility service has become our lifestyle. This has been going on before I came here over 26 years ago and still continues! When, if ever, will this situation improve? It's like a big joke is being played on us citizens and we remain quiet and accept it. When will this abuse stop?

When are we going to finally wake up and realize that the operation of this facility—power—is beyond the capability of our resources and skills? Why do we silently accept that only our government can and must operate this facility? How many citations and fines from the federal government do we need before we wake up?

I have visited the power plant in Lower Base several times and seen its operation first hand. Its engines are over 25 years old with barely any maintenance done over the years. In fact, some of the needed parts are no longer available. I feel sorry for the men working there who are trying so hard to make the plant operate smoothly.

It is the people who have the political power to change all this but for some unknown reason insist that this industry can only be operated by the government. When are we going to insist on change? Remember the CUC's condition didn't happen overnight. It has been a chronic neglect spreading over of 30 years and over several administrations

Last year we spent a small fortune for renting generators while we repaired the ones in the plant. Why did we have to do that had we maintained them periodically? Why did we have to wait until the blackouts became a way of life? Now we are told that these engines are operating well. Our power bill is one of the highest anywhere. Now the CUC is contemplating an increase of 37 percent! What are the CUC's breaking point and our breaking point?

On Aug. 11, 1994, we signed with the federal government a partnership agreement to do five things. One was to do a feasibility study for the privatization of CUC's assets and/or utility operation.

By ANTHONY PELLEGRINO

Special to the Saipan Tribune

Pellegrino is a longtime businessman in the CNMI and is the former president of the Saipan Chamber of Commerce.



Another point was a rational restructuring of CUC's debt. Where are with this agreement signed over 16 years ago?

We are told that the CUC is okay now. But I am reminded of a person jumping out of a 20 story building shouting as he falls a floor at a time that falling isn't so bad after all. But what happens when he falls past the first floor? Are we waiting for the last big THUD?

Is it our pride or arrogance that blinds us to reality? How long is this abuse and insult to us consumers of the CUC going to continue? Have we ever considered how the effect of poor power distribution affects large investors when they learn of this sad state of affairs?

Lack of money is not an excuse. There has been in the past and still is money available to fix up our system. Is there a plan somewhere for resolving these problems? Somehow I feel that the word "planning" is an obscene word in many people's minds. Why do we keep insisting that only the government can operate this utility so basic to a clean and civilized life? Other cities and municipalities have privatized this vital facility. Why can't we?

We need to contract out this vital industry. For some strange reason, we think that if a private company operates them we will get worse service. Then when we occasionally ask for bids, we mess them up by showering a lot of juicy personal politics over them. As a result we end up with zero.

There are many efficient and honest private companies willing to come here and resolve this chronic problem. Recall that the CUC has been in an emergency status since 2008 and is still there. Why?

I could go into its history of mismanagement and its technical problems but I don't wish to belabor this issue. It is enough to know that it has been proven over 30 years that **the government cannot operate the CUC successfully**. Hopefully after we finish reading this article, we will not simply turn to another page and dismiss all of this as the ranting of a grumbling citizen.

If we are totally unhappy with the CUC service as I am, we must demand action. Only you and I can change it. We can demand and effectuate change if we scream long and loud. Let's do it! Let's get off our butts (excuses) and demand change. Let's face reality and create a new and proficient power plant. Do we want this change

See CHANGE on Page 13

EDITORIAL POLICY The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

Saipan’s Sam and Samuel Show

The son of Sam turned out to be named Sam, and the Sam of my acquaintance is, I found out, officially Samuel. The formal name for Samuel’s son is also Samuel, which is probably what his girlfriend called him when he was paying too much attention to other girls! If you are confused, think what Agnes has to put up with when she and her son with erstwhile hubby get together.

Sam and Samuel hit the podium trail this week, gracing the institution that Mom helped found and where she used to hang her parasol awhile. Northern Marianas College held its Commencement exercises this week, first, for its Academy, with alum architect Sam as Keynote speaker; then second, for its college graduates who chose Samuel the elder, recently re-hired NMC professor, to keynote the event at the MHS gym.

One might say, this was the McPhetres week at NMC. SVES guardian Agnes took on the PTA *primus et pares* role just before I left the school. We cut down all the flametrees on the bleachers as aging branches endangered the children’s safety even with just a gust of wind. But sun was merciless after the ninth hour in the morning at assembly so the shades were needed. When it got too hot, the kindergarten and the lower grades were dismissed after their turn leaving the upper grades bereft of their screaming audience. Their performances would turn perfunctory and lackluster as if they were going through the motions just to get it over with. Not too many happy campers!

Agnes informed us then that architect son Sam was visiting and would be happy to lend design assistance to deal with the needed shade. A canopy using light materials like that used by the Denver Airport or the Honolulu Convention Center was suggested. With some pulleys and gears, Welch/Gramlich and the Science Team could help construct a modular structure based on local requirements and student-friendly ease of use.

I left SVES to heed medical attention for cervical spondylosis. I do not know if Sam was ever called, or the school overcame the shading need but if the construction pace of the kindergarten building was any indication, my guess is that the bleacher shade is still an intent in the administration’s to-do list.

Sam the younger addressed the NMA graduating class Wednesday afternoon, which begs the question of why young professionals like him who finish schooling off-island do not return home to practice their profession. Of course, we know why, Tony Pellegrino would say. Why pay the smart Sams their worth when one can import someone at minimum wage rate for the same role and function? Besides, there was money on the processing. It also added a compliant and beholden unit to a workforce that was subject to dubious servitude without accountability to national labor and immigration

laws? They even pay taxes that sustain the tolerated inefficient sector! (Last phrase mine.) OK. Samuel the elder promised not to delve on matters at NMC that involved his personal situation so I will skip any further political rhetoric. Rep. Kilili Sablan sidestepped the Sam-Samuel conundrum by calling him “Mr. McPhetres” for the day to present his congressional commendation (promised to revert back to “Sam” in the morrow). I had difficulty with “Samuel”, but when longevity limped on stage during the pomp-and-circumstance procession, gratefully waved off BoR Janet King’s offer to assist as he sauntered

The professor’s three-week resurrection at NMC might not be enough to steady his gait yet, but he stuck to his 15-minute speech as if the bell would ring if he exceeded his time. He regaled his audience with three stories of his life’s journey that left his footprints across the globe in the Atlantic (*j’adore amour; j’aime amie*), the Indian, and the Pacific oceans, including barely making it out of the desert in Somalia airlifting a PCV, listed as missing in a Seychelles’ tsunami, and covenanting his presence to the Marianas the rest of his life.

to the podium, conscientiously stuck to his 15-minute speech limit, I had a respectful appreciation for “Samuel”! (Samuel of old is the guy full of pathos after he reluctantly had to redo his royal sanctioning when young David replaced Saul of Israel!) Now, the stage props before we get to Sam’s keynote. Galvin dIG was emcee, a no-brainer choice. The SSHS Jay Rotchies precision marched the colors, with helmets and patent leader shoes well buffed. Will DeWitt and the Manta Ray Band processed and re-

By **JAIME VERGARA**
Special to the Saipan Tribune



Vergara is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune’s Opinion Section.

cessed the graduating class, a nice touch of Carnegie. Their renditions of the two Slavic beer-drinking tunes that constitute our two anthems were solemn and moving. Uncle Eloy, Rep. Kilili and Sen. Repeat Pete headed the politicians, too numerous to list. PSS CoE Rita Sablan and BOE Herman G. were the education pillars. Janet King’s indelible presence hosted the crowd with her feminine emphatic style; interim Pres. Lorraine Cabrera dutifully welcomed the crowd.

The pleased graduates were the precious backdrop, all decked out in Cambridge gowns a tad bit stuffy for the tropical heat of late Spring in dry May. (Is island wear unacademic?) The graduates were the main stay for the gathering. I was parochial. I came to see and listen to cool, resilient and legendary Sam McPhe.

The professor’s three-week resurrection at NMC might not be enough to steady his gait yet, but he stuck to his 15-minute speech as if the bell would ring if he exceeded his time. He regaled his audience with three stories of his life’s journey that left his footprints across the globe in the Atlantic (*j’adore amour; j’aime amie*), the Indian, and the Pacific oceans, including barely making it out of the desert in Somalia airlifting a PCV, listed as missing in a Seychelles’ tsunami, and covenanting his presence to the Marianas the rest of his life.

True to his lesson plan since the ’80s, he reminded the students again that they are solely responsible to do their own thinking. As the sum total of their cumulated experiences, they are as they are already an inspiration to themselves, and others (adding a cancer-stricken blind friend as an example). He did inveigle his incoming social survey class to be less x-rated in their methods when they gather in the Fall; not too keen in being accused to “putting students in harms’ way” again.

“When we harness the passion and enthusiasm of students,” he concluded, there is no reason for NMC not to become the best it can be. An Episcopalian *Amen* echoed in the myst of the Alaskan fog somewhere.

Acts I and II of the McPhetres Show were exemplary. We await Act III and the Epilog.

Pinadesen Diskuidu

Un’ tiempu sumen figu’ i industrian magagu guine. Tat tita chogue para ta protehe este na industria sa’ mauleg salapeña kase \$1.2 biyon pesos gi sakan.

Ni unu humassu na gi mismu tiempu dañkulu na chansa tananae’ i federat para u halom ya u chuleguan Marianas direchoña asuntun immigrasion. Hagas man-masañgane hit para ta aregla halom gimata.

I mañan Marianas guihe siha na tiempu kulan mohon gaige gi halom un’ dañkulun gupot ‘nai oppan minagof ya tai tiempu rumikonose i man-presisu siha na asuntun linahyan.

Ha gacha’ hit induktu pagu. Sin ditension ma-apprueba un’ lai federal (USPL 110-229) gi mapos na sakan. Lau achogha este, trabihi ti man-listu hit umaksepta na esta i asuntun immigrasion gaige gi kanai federat.

Huñgan guaha chinatsaga sa’ ti makonsutta Marianas gi ayu na prinipone (siñku guaha na rekomendasion gi halom ripot depattamenton Interior) lau gaige este na ginagau gi lai federat. I kuestion kau amanu gi siñku yan kau uma-ekuñgog sentimenton Marianas guine biahe?

Hu diseseha petsonat na u guaha diniteni gi konsiderasion este na asuntu estake monhayan man-bakasion i membron Kongresson iya Amerika. Lau hagas ta letke ‘sino ta bataruye este na asuntu. Estague pagu na ha fafana’ hit un’ piligrosu na rimulinu ‘nai satbasion gaige gi kanai Kongresson Amerika.

Mapos i industrian magagu ya ha e’eñgulu’ kau magahet na ma-amot iya Marianas ni direchon immigrasion. Acha maliñgu i dos. Hita pagu fumafana’ I mismu diskuiduta. Sumen na triste lau estague na estau ‘nai mangaige hit pagu na biahe.

Añglu i tanu deste odda’ esta’i tinanum siha. I chaguan man-malahyu. Tinanum sombra petmanente man-agoninias gi halom fotten somnag. I hanom grifu chata’ malalagnos. Tat chaguan yan troñku ti malahyu maseha manu un’ atan.

Hu rikonose hagas tinanom choda yan suni gi gualu. Maseha

man-gaige gi fina’ lehñgun, tat hagun ti sineñge ni atdau. Mafattu trinitesteghu ‘an hu konsidera kuantu gi tautauta pumadedese parehu añglu gi pottanmonedan familia ‘nai ni mona ni tatte.

Gi pahinan gasetta siha, oppan mapublilika para ma-amot propiadat ‘nos kuantos tautauta guine. Mampos ha gomgom korasonhu sa’ esta ti malañgag apas para guma’ familia yan bisnis. Kau guaha esperanza para u reskata gima familian niha?

Gi plasan katedrat, la anaghu na luchan kareta gaige na man-mabebende. Entre para u diñgu i tanu i dueñu ‘sino ayu uttimu na eskalera i para una’ suha gi listan obligasion. Gi todú atmos bandan chalan yan gi taftat ‘an manana si Yuus un’ lilie’ sirenon chinatsaga gi enteru i señgsoñg siha.

Didog i chinatsaga ya lamayot patte gi tautauta fumafana rimulion guafenyán sasalaguan tiempón eskases. I kuestion: Para kuantu tiempu para u palopu’ hit este na chinatsaga? Kau guaha esperanza fuera de este? ‘An hu faisen i amigu hu Magoo hafa pinadesisiña, ilegña, “I don’t, Maria!” Konfotmeyu!

Irensian Tanu

Hu faisen un’ amku hafa na ma-irerensia i patgon tanu ni mañainan niha? Ensegidas ilegña, “Pot satbasion i prohimu yan siakassu ginacha’ i patgon un’ didog na chinatsaga”. Pues anog na ti pot para pre-setbasion taimanu ‘an ta konsetba to’ an papaya yan inasnen tukun.

Mafaisen un’ tiuhu para u mafahan tanoña. Ilegña, “Ti siña hu bende este na lugat sa’ tanu tatahu”. Magpu todus negosiu yan usun sorobañg.

Hu faisen si nanahu hafa na guaha na patgon suette mas irensian fiñkas ke otrú. Ha oppeyu taiguine, “Segun i saina ennau na disision. Guiya solamismu tumuñgu famaguoña gi bandan petsonat na nina’ siñan niha. Ayu ha nae’ i ha sospecha na siña pinalopu chinatsaga mas ke pumalu famaguoña.”

By **JOHN S. DELROSARIO JR.**
Special to the Saipan Tribune



DelRosario is a regular contributor to the Saipan Tribune’s Opinion Section.

Hu faisen un’ biha amanu gi tanoña siha mas yaña. Ilegña, “Ayu lahihu halom i gaige gi simienteyu sa’ ni unu bai’ inestotba”. Magahet!

Ha hoñgañgyu un’ prohimu ni ume’esalau na muñga masede tautau hiyoñg man-dueñon tanu guine. Hita solu siña muñega este na asuntu komu dueñon tanu. Hagu i uttimu disposision gi tanomu.

Dispues hu soda’ na ha bende i uttimu tanu familia ‘nos kuantos años malofan. Gaige pagu na sumensasaga gi tanu publiku. Ti ligat este na modun usun tanu publiku. Gi primet lugat, i diskuidu gaige giya guiya sa’ ha bende uttimu propiadatña.

Yangin taya tanomu pot taiguine na diskuidu, pues ti un mirese manae’ otrú tanu gi tanu publiku. Guaha kuaru mit tantos na aplikante esta pagu ti man-mananae sitiun homestead. Gai kinemprende gi nesessidat otrú siha ni hagas manañga tanu hometead.






Finanue’ uniku na patgon lahe as tataña biyinariu punta pot punta na tanu yan todú klasen fina offisina, hotel yan palasyu ni manatachu guihe na propiadat siha. “Todu este siha, kontodu este na hospitat, iyoghu para iyomu yan si sigiente siha na leblon bañku”.

Hafa’ pinitigue i ingratu na patgon ya ha faisen si tataña hafa siña ha chogue pot para u fan ayuda. Ilegña si tataña, “Nasuha adeñgmu guenau gi hose oxygen sa’ un’ punuyu”. Malagrisidu!

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

The Weather

5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

TODAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
				
Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers. East winds 15 to 20 mph.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.	Partly cloudy with isolated showers.
▲ 88° ▼ 78°	▲ 89° ▼ 78°	▲ 89° ▼ 79°	▲ 89° ▼ 79°	▲ 89° ▼ 79°

Micronesia

Guam and Rota	Thundershowers	▲ 87 ▼ 80
Palau	Partly Sunny	▲ 87 ▼ 77
Yap	Mostly Sunny	▲ 88 ▼ 78
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	▲ 83 ▼ 75
Pohnpei	Rain	▲ 85 ▼ 77
Kosrae	Rain	▲ 89 ▼ 79
Majuro	Showers	▲ 86 ▼ 78

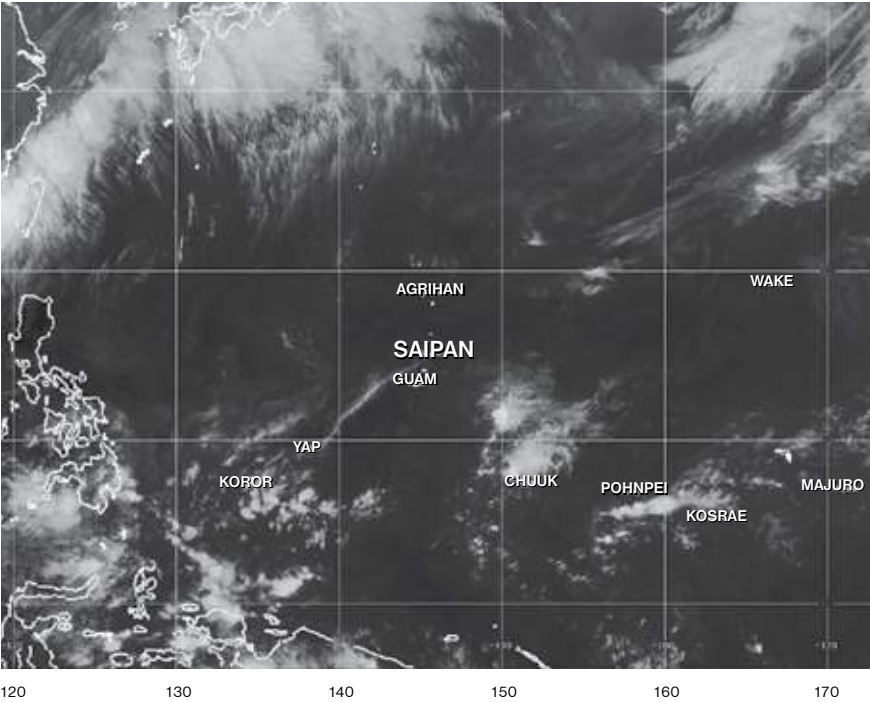
Around The Globe

Auckland	Showers	▲ 61 ▼ 56
Beijing	Partly Cloudy	▲ 82 ▼ 62
Hong Kong	Partly Cloudy	▲ 81 ▼ 67
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	▲ 83 ▼ 74
London	Sunny	▲ 73 ▼ 54
Los Angeles	Sunny	▲ 67 ▼ 54
Manila	Thundershowers	▲ 94 ▼ 79
Melbourne	Showers	▲ 59 ▼ 52
Miami	Thundershowers	▲ 85 ▼ 76
New York	Partly Cloudy	▲ 79 ▼ 62
Osaka	Showers	▲ 72 ▼ 61
Paris	Sunny	▲ 77 ▼ 55
Pusan	Showers	▲ 68 ▼ 58
Rome	Partly Cloudy	▲ 71 ▼ 57
Salem	Partly Cloudy	▲ 65 ▼ 44
San Francisco	Partly Cloudy	▲ 53 ▼ 48
Seoul	Showers	▲ 69 ▼ 56
Tokyo	Showers	▲ 71 ▼ 64
Washington, DC	Thundershowers	▲ 80 ▼ 66

Tides

Saipan Harbor				
4:03 AM	Today	High Tide:	2.0 Feet	
11:08 AM	Today	Low Tide:	0.2 Feet	
5:32 PM	Today	High Tide:	1.6 Feet	
10:52 PM	Today	Low Tide:	0.9 Feet	

Yesterday's Satellite Image



PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, SUNDAY, MAY 23, 2010
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A trough of low pressure stretched from near 7N148E to 14N148E. Scattered showers associated with the trough can be found east of Guam between 8N and 14N from 148E to 153E. Another trough of low pressure is located southeast of Palau and stretches from 4N137E to 8N136E. Scattered showers associated with the trough can be found between 4N and 8N from 135E to 139E. A third trough of low pressure can be found between Pohnpei and Kosrae and stretches from 2N157E to 11N169E. Scattered showers associated with this trough are located within 200 miles east and west of the trough axis.

Sunrise/Sunset

Today	5:47 AM	6:41 PM
Tuesday	5:46 AM	6:42 PM
Wednesday	5:46 AM	6:42 PM
Thursday	5:46 AM	6:42 PM
Friday	5:46 AM	6:43 PM

Moonrise/Moonset

Today	3:12 PM	2:24 AM
Tuesday	4:09 PM	3:08 AM
Wednesday	5:07 PM	3:54 AM
Thursday	6:06 PM	4:43 AM
Friday	7:04 PM	5:35 AM

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 - BIRTHDAY GREETINGS A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
 - BUSINESS Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
 - SAMUT SARI Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
 - TRAVELOGUE Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.
- ANNOUNCEMENTS**
 - COMMUNITY BRIEFS

- Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

REQUIREMENTS

- For pictures:**
- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
 - Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
 - Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
 - Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
 - For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.
- For announcements:**
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when),

- the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.
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- To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF APRIL 7, 2010									
DEPARTURES					ARRIVALS				
ROTA (ROP)-GUAM					GUAM-ROTA (ROP)				
C09597	5:00am	5:30am	1, 5		C09598	6:30pm	7:00pm	4, 7	
SAIPAN-GUAM					GUAM-SAIPAN				
C09317	4:25am	5:15am	Daily		C09316	2:45am	3:35am	Daily	
C09313	8:30am	9:20am	Daily		C09596	7:00am	7:50am	Daily	
C09601	12:10pm	1:00pm	1, 4, 5, 7		C09600	10:05am	10:55am	Daily	
C09603	3:05pm	3:55pm	Daily		C09602	1:40pm	2:30pm	1, 4, 5, 7	
C09605	6:35pm	7:25pm	Daily		C09604	5:10pm	6:00pm	Daily	
C09599	9:35pm	10:25pm	Daily		C09606	8:10pm	9:00pm	Daily	
SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)					NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN				
DL287	5:55am	8:35am	Daily		DL290	10:00am	2:35pm	Daily	
DL297	3:35pm	6:15pm	Daily		DL298	10:30am	3:05pm	Daily	
DL289	4:35pm	7:15pm	Daily		DL288	8:40pm	1:15am+1	Daily	
SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)					BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN				
OZ608	3:20am	6:50am	1, 5		OZ607	9:00pm	2:20am+1	4, 7	
SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)					SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN				
OZ604	2:20am	6:10am	1		OZ605	9:00am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7	
OZ604	2:50am	6:30am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7		OZ603	7:40pm	1:10am+1	7	
OZ606	3:30pm	7:00pm	2, 4, 6, 7		OZ603	8:10pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6	
SAIPAN-SHANGHAI (PVG)					SHANGHAI (PVG)-SAIPAN				
FM844	2:50am	5:40am	2, 6		FM843	7:15pm	1:50am+1	1, 5	
SAIPAN-GUANGZHOU (CAN)					GUANGZHOU (CAN)-SAIPAN				
CZ3008	3:30am	6:40am	2, 6		CZ3007	7:30pm	2:40am+1	1, 5	
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)					MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN				
OZ604/701	2:20am	11:25am	1 via ICN		OZ704/605	12:10am	2:30pm	2, 4, 6, 7	
OZ604/701	2:50am	11:25am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN					via ICN	
OZ606/703	2:20am	11:00pm	1 via ICN		OZ706/607	3:35am	2:20am+1	4, 7 via PUS	
OZ606/703	2:50am	11:00pm	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN		C0890/9606	10:55am	9:00pm	6 via GUM	
					OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN	
OZ608/705	3:20am	12:10am+1	1, 5 via PUS		OZ702/603	12:45pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN	
C09317/891	4:25am	9:45am	6 via GUM		PR110/C09596	10:00pm	7:50am+1	1, 3, 5, 6, 7 via GUM	
C09603/893	3:05pm	9:10pm	3, 5 via GUM-Palau		C0892/9596	10:10pm	7:50am+1	3, 5 via GUM-Palau	
C09603/933	3:05pm	8:40pm	Daily via GUM		C0934/9596	10:55pm	7:50am+1	Daily via GUM	
SAIPAN-HONG KONG					HONG KONG-SAIPAN				
OZ604/721	2:20am	11:45am	1 via ICN		OZ724/605	12:30am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7	
OZ604/721	2:50am	11:45am	2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 via ICN					via ICN	
OZ606/749	3:30pm	11:00pm	4, 6, 7 via ICN		OZ750/605	1:00am	2:20pm	2, 4, 6, 7	
C09603/909	3:05am	9:30pm	1, 5 via GUM					via ICN	
					OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:10am+1	7 via ICN	
					OZ722/603	1:15pm	1:40am+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 via ICN	
					C0910/9596	10:35pm	7:50am+1	1, 5 via GUM	
Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CZ: China Southern; CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; DL: Delta Airlines; OZ: Asiana ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)									

FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency	Airline	ETD	ETA	Frequency
Guam-Rota				FRE 113	11:40am	11:50am	Daily
FRE 100	7:00am	7:30am	Daily	FRE 115	1:00pm	1:10pm	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 117	2:30pm	2:40pm	Daily
FRE 100	7:50am	8:20am	Daily	FRE 119	4:00pm	4:10pm	Daily
Saipan-Rota				FRE 121	4:40pm	4:50pm	Daily
FRE 200	9:00am	9:30am	Daily	FRE 123 *	5:40pm	5:50pm	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 125 *	6:00pm	6:10pm	Daily
FRE 200	9:50am	10:15am	Daily	Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**			
Guam-Rota				FRE 102	7:05am	7:15am	Daily
FRE 300	4:00pm	4:30pm	Daily	FRE 104	7:50am	8:00am	Daily
Rota-Saipan				FRE 106**	8:20am	8:30am	Daily
FRE 300	4:50pm	5:25pm	Daily	FRE 108**	9:00am	9:10am	Daily
Saipan-Rota				FRE 110	10:00am	10:10am	Daily
FRE 400	6:00pm	6:30pm	Daily	FRE 112	11:05am	11:15am	Daily
Rota-Guam				FRE 114	12:00pm	12:10pm	Daily
FRE 400	6:45pm	7:15pm	Daily	FRE 116	1:30pm	1:40pm	Daily
Saipan-Tinian				FRE 118	2:50pm	3:00pm	Daily
FRE 101	6:45am	6:55am	Daily	FRE 120**	4:20pm	4:30pm	Daily
FRE 103	7:30am	7:40am	Daily	FRE 122**	5:00pm	5:10pm	Daily
FRE 105	8:00am	8:10am	Daily	FRE 124	6:05pm	6:15pm	Daily
FRE 107	8:40am	8:50am	Daily	FRE 126	6:20pm	6:30pm	Daily
FRE 109*	9:10am	9:20am	Daily				
FRE 111*	10:45am	10:55am	Daily				



NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:

- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

Article XII: An honorable cause

By **JIM RAYPHAND**
SPECIAL TO THE SAIPAN TRIBUNE

There is no question that Article XII restraints on land alienation tend to have a cooling effect upon the land market and it seems likely that abolishing said restrictions would bolster the local economy such that land prices would rise and more investors would flood our shores to make outright purchases of said land.

But knowing that land is the only significant asset that the people of the Commonwealth have, I can't help but think that perhaps economics or cash flow should not be our primary concern when weighing the pros and cons of this issue. Money is not everything and so the potential for making more of it at the cost of displacing more of the indigenous people really ought to be a secondary consideration to the more important question of: What purpose does Article XII actually serve and is it working? The short answer, in my opinion, is that while it was a good idea at the onset of the Covenant, Article XII did not achieve its purpose and will, in the long run, only cause further alienation of the very people it set out to protect, *descendants* of the Northern Mariana Islands. But let's explore a little more closely.

The motive force behind the land restrictions, as part of the political compromise memorialized in the Covenant, was that the people of the Northern Marianas did not want to achieve their longtime ambition to become part of the American political family only to become landless paupers in their new Commonwealth. Furthermore, the land alienation restrictions are properly viewed as an attempt, albeit a paternalistic one, to prevent the inhabitants from selling their cultural anchor for short-term economic gain, thereby protecting local culture and values and preventing exploitation of inexperienced islanders at the hands of resourceful and comparatively wealthy outside investors. So, under the Covenant, the people of the CNMI retained their right to self-government and (were) assured their protection from the loss of their lands. The Covenant protects them from being overwhelmed by aliens who might come to their shores and become U.S. citizens—maybe we'll take up the issue of nonresident status another time.

For now, the simple and sad fact is that a significant number of Chamorro and Carolinian people (Tao Tao Tano yan/bwal Refälwasch), are currently landless and impoverished—if you don't believe me, check the ethnicity records for Food Stamp and/or Section 8 recipients. In fact, NMPASI records show that approximately 20

CHANGE

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badly enough?

Please can't one or two of you Legislators draft up a bill mandating that this facility becomes privatized? Please, governor, can we privatize the CUC? If not, please explain why this cannot be done. What is the underlining problem, if there is one?

Singapore has developed a successful formula for privatizing yet maintaining control of it public facilities. It realized a long time ago that it lacked the expertise and motivation to operate them. So they developed a plan called **Private—Public Partnership**. Check this out on the Internet and read the results of their successful solution of a major problem. They have even included health services and other needed services. All are privatized with excellent results.

In this arrangement the government contracts with a private entity to operate whatever facility it wishes, including its medical facilities. Through a contractual arrangement the government regulates

STARVING

From Page 10

tion costs and delivery time. In still other cases, hunger is the result of poverty—there are grains in the market, but people don't have money to buy them. That's where vouchers are useful. Vouchers and purchases of indigenous crops also ensure that people get culturally appropriate foods that they are accustomed to eating.

Buying locally is not always the answer. In Latin America, for example, it may be cheaper to ship food from the United States, according to the GAO report. Many local markets have a limited number of reliable suppliers, poor or insufficient inventory and lack legal systems necessary to enforce contracts, making strict oversight essential. Huge purchases on the ground can also drive up prices, forcing consumers who might have been able to buy their own food out of the market and into the ranks of the needy.

Nonetheless, with proper care and oversight, the benefits frequently outweigh the risks. Local and regional food purchases can stimulate agriculture in underdeveloped countries and feed dollars into hungry economies, as well as food into hungry bellies, while also reducing global greenhouse gas emissions by planes, ships and trucks. Furthermore, shipping food to impoverished countries can undercut their agricultural base, as former President Clinton noted to the Senate

percent of clients receiving housing assistance via the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP) are either Chamorro or Carolinian—no doubt that number would be much higher if we hadn't closed the program to any new applicants. Incidentally, 24 percent of households receiving assistance via HPRP have one or more individuals with disabilities living in them. The point is that Article XII does not in and of itself prevent the *people of the land* from being displaced. It's the choices people make that determine how and where their lives and the lives of their off-spring will unfold—the same is true for all people despite race, color, gender, and in some cases disability although some people with disabilities are far more vulnerable to exploitation and more often denied their right to make informed decisions about their own lives.

Going further, any notion that today's islanders are inexperienced or less sophisticated such that by virtue of being indigenous they remain vulnerable to exploitation and need big brother's protection is an archaic stereotype from our more primitive days and a direct slap in the face of all islanders in general. Yeah, there are plenty of knuckleheads who will pawn off their land for a new car or a night at the poker room, but that's true for people from all walks of life and that's their choice... a ridiculous choice, but a choice nonetheless. Everybody has the absolute, inalienable right to live their lives the way they see fit...inevitably, some people will make meaningful progress and others will stumble, but...*c'est la vie*. It's these very concepts of self-determination and choice that make America the greatest nation on Earth—we live in the land of the free—simple as that.

Now, do I think that there should be preferential treatment for indigenous people in terms of land ownership? You're damn right I do...! These lands belonged to them. Article XII has been an honorable cause, one that aims to protect the rights of Northern Mariana Island descendants, not just pure-bred Chamorros and/or Carolinians, but their children and their children's children and so on. Because human nature cannot be restrained by the confines of pure ethnic bloodlines, at some point, we will all be completely mixed up and the blood of each and every one of our Northern Mariana descendants will flow with a multitude of colors. If it's not already true, there will be descendants of Chamorro and Carolinian people who do not meet the minimum requirement of—or whatever the prescribed number is for indigenous blood. At this point, the quickest and most practical way there is to put and/or keep more land in the hands of the indigenous people rests in the homestead program. The powers that be need to step it up, carve out more chunks of

the facility while the private sector operates it in a professional and transparent manner. It is a harmonious relationship between private and public enterprises. This system has been working well for many years. Ever wonder why Singapore is so economically successful?

I want to state again that this not a personal attack on anyone or group. It is a **plea** to improve our lives. I don't understand why we have to act as a socialistic country in which the government operates all the industries. Can't we contract with private enterprises and see where they take us?

Please—why can't the administration, the legislators and concerned citizens, unite and make an improvement? There is no shame for the government to admit its inadequacies. It is more of a shame to not admit its inadequacies. The mark of great leadership is to take its citizens to new heights and improve their community and lives.

By joining hands we will improve our community and lives. Our comfort and health lies in our hands! Don't ever forget: We are the consumers! Please let's take action before the CUC really turns into a major—major disaster! We have a bit of time to act before it is too late. Let's fix it now!

Foreign Relations Committee in March when he expressed regret for policies implemented during his administration to export U.S.-subsidized food to Haiti, making it cheaper to buy U.S. rice there than the Haitian-grown commodity. Similarly, too much food charity shipped from the United States can discourage production in the recipient country and damage its ability to feed itself even in good times.

In the United States, resistance to cash allocations came from farmers and longshoremen, for whom the aid purchases amounted to a kind of backdoor subsidy. The Bush administration tried and failed to pass a farm bill that would have allowed 25 percent of U.S. food aid funds to be used to purchase food abroad—compared with at least 50 percent in Canada and nearly 100 percent in the European Union. The Bush administration finally was able to get \$60 million over five years in a pilot program under the 2008 farm bill, and the Obama administration has authorized \$300 million in International Disaster Assistance funds this year.

Moreover, the Obama administration has made global hunger and food security a foreign policy priority, promising to attack the underlying factors that contribute to food crises, from population growth and deforestation to crop and food distribution problems. In the meantime, we concur with the food aid groups that the administration has made a good start. Faster food deliveries can save lives.

available public lands and catch up on the homestead applicant's waiting list. The fact that some people have been waiting for a lot since the early '90s is yet another commentary on how the indigenous people are continually being put on the backburner of priorities. Let's stop the rhetoric on indigenous pride and start giving indigenous people something to be proud of, a piece of land that they can cultivate and actually own. Short of that, people need to work themselves off of welfare programs and start buying land for themselves...simply clamoring over the exclusive right to own land does not translate to actually owning land. Personally, I'm content with a 55-year leasehold interest in the couple of small pieces of land I've been able to obtain—I neither plan to live that long nor have I figured out a way to take land to the grave with me—but my children all of who are of Northern Marianas descent should be afforded the right to own and pass on land to their children despite the percentage of indigenous blood in their line—they too are the true people of these islands.

For more information on the prevalence of disabilities in the CNMI and/or on existing programs for individuals with disabilities, please feel free to call the NMPASI office (670) 235-7273/4 [voice] or 235-7275 [fax] or 235-7278 [tty] or contact us on-line at www.nmpasi.com.

Letters to the Editor

Importance of OPM audit

Auditing of positions is a basic function of the Office of Personnel Management. It is definitely a serious question to raise why this office can not or unable to perform this work. It is ripe that the media probe, ask, and report this to the general public so that we can understand and know exactly why this is the case. If competency is the issue, can you imagine what the impact would have training the staff and management of OPM on a million-dollar budget or grant money? I think there is some explanation to this matter.

This also would open up opportunities to professionals in human resources management that may avail their expertise to the CNMI government and would have a greater bang for the buck.

Even on a \$300,000 training budget, I can assure you that the government could address all of its human resources management needs and solutions that would be up-to-date and state-of-the-art best practices, including building capacity to last for the long term. If this does not make sense, what is?

Francisco R. Agulto
Chalan Kanoa

Stand up and be counted

My fellow indigenous people of the land, it is extremely important that each and one of you join in on the May 29 peaceful rally being organized by members of our local community.

It is time to take a stand against the recent proposed vindictive recommendations to U.S. Congress by the Department of Interior who fail to fully consult our government and its people.

It is time that members of U.S. Congress fully realize and understand that our concerns and that of our future generations must be heard. Remember that well over three years we had been protesting the intent of certain members of the Department of Interior whom we believe had orchestrated and incorporated the granting of permanent residency or outright citizenship to foreigners in our homeland a U.S. soil.

All of you my fellow United States indigenous people of the land must also understand that our constitution states clearly that we must defend our homeland from any foreign or domestic invasion.

We firmly believe that the federal government, particularly the Department of Interior in collaboration with the federal ombudsman, promoted such invasions and intrusions upon its own United States citizens. This thus far is clear evidence of a personal vendetta by former Assistant Secretaries to Interior Allan Stayman, David Cohen, and now being carried out by a well groomed and trained Assistant Secretary Tony Babauta.

Stand up and be counted my fellow Taotao Tano for your future and that of our future generations social and cultural well being is endangered of becoming a minority in our homeland. We must defend our rights as indigenous people of the land as it is written in our covenant agreements that we are in political union with the United States for which consultations was part of that agreement. Biba taotao Marianas!

Gregorio Cruz
Taotao Tano president

Business

Clinton courts Chinese people; tough mission nears

SHANGHAI (AP)—U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton said Sunday that she would be pushing the Chinese for a “more balanced economic relationship” with the U.S. in upcoming economic and strategic talks in Beijing.

Those talks, to be co-chaired by Clinton and U.S. Treasury Secretary Timothy Geithner, are likely to be dominated by efforts to win China's support to punish North Korea for the sinking of a South Korean warship. But the U.S. officials will be focused on economic issues as well.

“For trade to work in any economy and for it to produce the benefits we know it can, there must be a level playing field where domestic and international companies can compete freely and openly,” she told workers at a Boeing maintenance facility at Shanghai's Pudong Airport.

Geithner and Clinton are leading a delegation of nearly 200 officials to Beijing as part of an effort to help President Barack Obama deliver on his pledge to double U.S. exports within five years and create 2 million jobs.

One issue likely to come up is the trade advantage Beijing has because of an undervalued Chinese currency.

As the European financial crisis

deepens, Beijing appears to be pulling back from expected moves to loosen its currency's peg to the U.S. dollar, saying the euro's slide to four-year lows

against the dollar is putting too heavy a burden on its own exporters.

China has kept the yuan at a rate of about 6.83 per dollar for nearly two

years, seeking to cushion its exporters from the global financial crisis. Some economists reckon the yuan is undervalued by up to 40 percent against the

dollar, giving Chinese exporters an unfair advantage in overseas markets.

While trying to make progress on economic issues, Clinton will also be trying to win Beijing's support for punishing its ally North Korea.

She faces a hard sell convincing China's leaders that they should back U.N. penalties after an international investigation blamed North Korea for sinking a South Korean navy ship.

Her trip has been a hectic and intense three-nation journey to Asia. She stopped briefly in Japan on Friday, and her schedule put her in Beijing on Sunday and the South Korean capital of Seoul on Wednesday.

“Virtually every major challenge that we face in the world requires China and the United States to work together,” she told staff at the U.S. Consulate General in Shanghai.

But the downed ship is crowding out all else on her agenda, even the high-level strategic and economic talks between the U.S. and China on Monday and Tuesday that were the main thrust of her trip.

The release Thursday of the report blaming the North changed all that. Now, her chief task is persuading China to go along with U.N. Security Council action against the communist nation.

An international team of civilian and military investigators said that a North Korean submarine fired a homing torpedo on March 26, ripping South Korea's 1,200-ton Cheonan in two. Fifty-eight sailors were rescued, but 46 died—South Korea's worst military disaster since the 1950-53 Korean War.

The U.N. Command began an investigation Saturday into whether the attack violated the Korean War truce agreement.



U.S. Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, third left, walks alongside Vice President for Boeing International Shephard Hill, right, after speaking on commercial development at the Boeing Maintenance Facility at Pudong International Airport in Shanghai, Sunday, May 23, 2010.

Frustration mounts as oil seeps into Gulf wetlands

ROBERT, La. (AP)—Anger grew along the Gulf Coast as an ooze of oil washed into delicate coastal wetlands in Louisiana, with many wondering how to clean up the monthlong mess—especially now that BP's latest try to plug the blown-out well won't happen until at least Tuesday.

“It's difficult to clean up when you haven't stopped the source,” said Chris Roberts, a councilman for Jefferson Parish, which stretches from the New Orleans metropolitan area to the coast. “You can scrape it off the beach but it's coming right back.”

Roberts surveyed the oil that forced officials to close a public beach on Grand Isle, south of New Orleans, as globs of crude that resembled melted chocolate washed up. Others questioned why BP PLC was still in charge of the response.

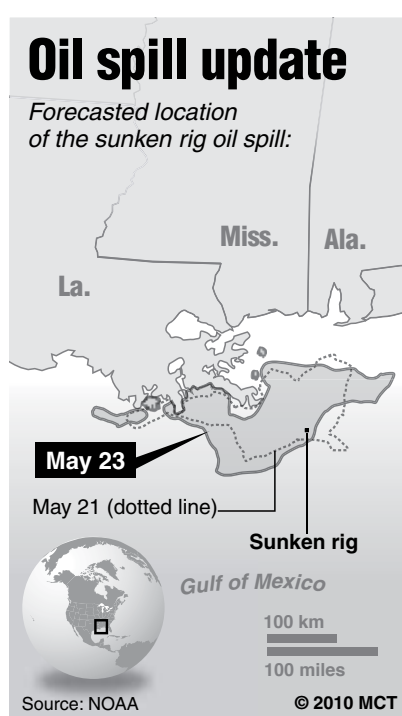
“The government should have stepped in and not just taken BP's word,” declared Wayne Stone of Marathon, Fla., an avid diver who worries about the spill's effect on the ecosystem.

Obama seeks tougher mileage, efficiency standards

WASHINGTON (AP)—President Barack Obama is setting the nation's sights on vehicles that run on half the fuel they now use and give off half the pollution.

Obama on Friday directed the government to set the first-ever mileage and pollution limits for big trucks and to tighten rules for future cars and SUVs.

“The nation that leads in the clean energy economy will lead the global economy,” Obama said at the White House. “And I want America to be that nation.” The presidential memorandum he signed aims to reshape the country's driving habits long after he leaves office.



The government is overseeing the cleanup and response, but the official responsible for the oversight said he

understands the discontent.

“If anybody is frustrated with this response, I would tell them their symptoms are normal, because I'm frustrated, too,” said Coast Guard Commandant Thad Allen. “Nobody likes to have a feeling that you can't do something about a very big problem.”

As simple as it may seem, the law prevents the government from just taking over, Allen said. After the 1989 Exxon Valdez spill in Alaska, Congress dictated that oil companies be responsible for dealing with major accidents—including paying for all cleanup—with oversight by federal agencies.

BP, which is in charge of the cleanup, said it will be at least Tuesday before engineers can shoot mud into the blown-out well at the bottom of the Gulf, yet another delay in the effort to stop the oil.

A so-called “top kill” has been tried on land but never 5,000 feet underwater, so scientists and engineers have spent the past week preparing and taking measurements to make sure it will

stop the oil that has been spewing into the sea for a month. They originally hoped to try it as early as this weekend.

BP spokesman Tom Mueller said there was no snag in the preparations, but that the company must get equipment in place and finish tests before the procedure can begin.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Chrysler adds 1,100 jobs at Detroit Jeep plant

DETROIT (AP)—Chrysler Group LLC gave a big boost to the battered Michigan economy Friday when it announced plans to add about 1,100 workers to help build the new Jeep Grand Cherokee. The company made the announcement at a Detroit factory as it celebrated the start of Grand Cherokee production. Chrysler said it expects strong sales of the new sport utility vehicle, which is due in showrooms next month. Almost all the workers will be new hires, which Chrysler can pay about \$14 per hour, about half the hourly rate received by current workers represented by the United Auto Workers union. The workers will staff a second shift at the factory, called the Jefferson North Assembly Plant, starting July 19.

Alfalfa sprouts recalled after at least 22 ill

WASHINGTON (AP)—Salmonella found in raw alfalfa sprouts appears to have sickened at least 22 people in 10 states, including a baby in Oregon, prompting a nationwide recall of the product. Caldwell Fresh Foods of Maywood, Calif., announced the recall Friday. According to the Oregon Department of Human Services, which also announced the recall Friday, Caldwell's

alfalfa product was sold in 18 states in the West, Midwest and South.

According to the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 11 people were sickened in California, two were sickened in Nevada and two were sickened in Wisconsin. Arizona, Oregon, Idaho, Illinois, Missouri, New Mexico and Colorado each had one person become ill, the CDC said. The illnesses began between March 1 and May 2 and six people were hospitalized.

Grace Foods recalls cans of corned beef

MIRAMAR, Fla. (AP)—Caribbean food products maker Grace Foods USA is voluntarily recalling two batches of its canned corned beef because they have higher than acceptable levels of a drug used to treat cattle for parasites, the company said Saturday. There is a remote possibility that people could be sickened if they use the product, the company said. The 12-ounce cans have codes 100204 or 100205 with “Brasil Inspeccionado 337 S.I. F.” stamped on the top. In routine testing, a Brazilian corned beef supplier found higher levels of Ivermectin, the anti-parasite treatment, than allowed by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, Grace Foods said in its statement. Ivermectin is routinely used in cattle, the company said.

Nation

Obama says diplomacy, military go hand in hand

President Barack Obama congratulates graduates of the U.S. Military Academy in West Point, N.Y., Saturday, May 22, 2010.

AP



WEST POINT, N.Y. (AP)—The U.S. must shape a world order as reliant on the force of diplomacy as on the might of its military to lead, President Barack Obama said Saturday as he outlined a foreign policy vision that repudiated the go-it-alone approach forged by his predecessor, George W. Bush.

Addressing nearly 1,000 graduating cadets at the U.S. Military Academy, many of whom will likely head to

war in Iraq and Afghanistan under his command, Obama said all hands are required to solve the world's newest threats: terrorism, the spread of nuclear weapons, climate change and feeding and caring for a growing population.

The U.S. military is the "cornerstone of our national defense," but Obama said the men and women who wear America's uniform cannot bear that responsibility by themselves. "The rest of

us must do our part," he said.

"The burdens of this century cannot fall on our soldiers alone. It also cannot fall on American shoulders alone," the commander in chief told graduates in gray and white uniforms seated on the field at Michie Stadium.

Diplomacy and muscle must work together, he said in calling for "renewed engagement" from diplomats, along with development experts, intel-

ligence and law enforcement agencies, and first responders.

Obama acknowledged that the U.S. is "clear-eyed" about the shortcoming of the international system, but he said America had not ever been successful by "stepping out of the currents of cooperation."

"We have succeeded by steering those currents in the direction of liberty and justice, so nations thrive by meeting their responsibilities and face the consequences when they don't," the president said. Bush's "my way or the highway" approach alienated some al-

lies and damaged U.S. standing around the world. Obama has promised to restore America's reputation, and he said Saturday that he aimed to do that by forging new alliances, maintaining old ones and helping to shape stronger international standards and institutions.

At the same time, Obama said the U.S. will fight to protect "those universal rights that formed the creed of our founding" and will lead by example by staying true to the rule of law and the Constitution, "even when it's hard, even when we're being attacked, even when we're in the midst of war."

NY's Cuomo announces he's running for governor

NEW YORK (AP)—New York Attorney General Andrew Cuomo declared his candidacy for governor Saturday, delivering a full-throated call for political reform and pledging to make the notoriously dysfunctional state government more accountable to its citizens.

The announcement by Cuomo to seek the governorship once held by his iconic father, Mario Cuomo, had been widely expected. The Democrat disclosed his candidacy in a video released on his website before appearing before supporters later in the day.

Cuomo made the announcement on the steps of the Tweed Courthouse in lower Manhattan, named for the leader of the city's corrupt 19th century Tammany Hall political machine. Cuomo said he did so because "Albany's antics today could make Boss Tweed blush."

"Enough is enough," Cuomo de-

clared. "It's time the people of the Empire State strike back."

Cuomo promised to cap the state's property taxes, which are among the highest in the nation, and to consolidate local governments and create a more favorable environment for job growth.

With his father standing nearby, the younger Cuomo cast himself as a populist crusader who would lead a "citizen's coalition" to restore integrity to state government.

"New York wasn't always like this. This isn't New York at its best," he said. "I represent the people of the state of New York and we want our government back."

Cuomo's effort to run as an outsider to reform state government will have to overcome some skepticism, given his deep ties to Albany and his membership in one of New York's most storied political families.

GOP wins House seat in Obama's home district

HONOLULU (AP)—Republicans scored a midterm election victory Saturday when Honolulu City Councilman Charles Djou won a Democratic-held House seat in Hawaii in the district where President Barack Obama grew up—the latest triumph for the GOP as it looks to take back control of Congress.

Djou's victory was a blow to Obama and other Democrats who could not rally around a candidate and find away to win a congressional race that should have been a cakewalk. The seat had been held by a Democrat for nearly 20 years and is located where Obama was born and spent most of his childhood.

"This is a momentous day. We have sent a message to the United States

Congress. We have sent a message to the national Democrats. We have sent a message to the machine," Djou said. "The congressional seat is not owned by one political party. This congressional seat is owned by the people."

But Democrats believe the success in Hawaii will be short-lived. Djou will only serve through the remainder of 2010, and another election will be held in November for the next term.

Djou received 67,274 votes, or 39.5 percent. He was trailed by state Senate President Colleen Hanabusa, a Democrat who received 52,445 votes, or 30.8 percent. The other leading Democrat, former U.S. Rep. Ed Case, received 47,012 votes, or 27.6 percent.



Djou

Republicans see the victory as a powerful statement about their momentum heading into November. They already sent a Republican to the U.S. Senate to replace the late Sen. Edward M. Kennedy of Massachusetts—a place that was once thought to be the most hostile of territories for the GOP. Now Republicans can say they won a congressional seat in the former backyard of the president and in a state that gave Obama 72 percent of the vote two years ago.

"Charles' victory is evidence his conservative message of lowering the tax burden, job creation and government accountability knows no party lines. It is a message Americans want to hear from candidates across the country," said Republican National Committee Chairman Michael Steele.

Sharpton: Detroit girl's death is 'breaking point'

DETROIT (AP)—Civil rights activist the Rev. Al Sharpton gave a rousing eulogy Saturday for a 7-year-old girl killed in a police raid, challenging the hundreds of mourners to take responsibility and help stop a spiral of violence that has swept the city.

Sharpton lobbed some criticism at Detroit police, whose explanation of how Aiyana Stanley-Jones died from a gunshot has been contradicted by the girl's family. But he mostly offered a broad cultural message to a city where at least three children and an officer have been killed in recent weeks.

"I'd rather tell you to start looking at the man in the mirror. We've all done something that contributed to this," he said referring to Aiyana's death.

"This is it," Sharpton said at Second Ebenezer Church. "This child is the

breaking point."

The congregation stood and applauded Sharpton, the final speaker at a nearly two-hour service that included stirring gospel music and remarks from clergy.

Aiyana was shot in the neck while sleeping on a couch May 16. Police hunting for a murder suspect say an officer's gun accidentally fired inside the house after he was jostled by, or collided with, her grandmother. A stun grenade was also thrown through a window.

A lawyer for Aiyana's family, Geoffrey Fieger, is suing and claims the shot was fired from outside the house immediately after the grenade was used. A camera crew working on the A&E reality series "The First 48" accompanied police on the raid.



ACROSS THE NATION

Robbers rig car to smash into Idaho liquor store

TWIN FALLS, Idaho (AP)—Police in Idaho say three people ransacked a Twin Falls liquor store by rigging a driverless vehicle that smashed through the front doors so they could get inside. A deputy director of the Idaho State Liquor Division says the 2002 Pontiac had a pipe jammed between the seat and accelerator when it crashed and wiped out the bourbon section. Police say surveillance video of the Thursday morning break-in shows two men and a woman wearing

masks and carrying bags rush in behind the car and take bottles of alcohol before running away. Investigators say they have spoken to the owner of the vehicle, which had not been reported stolen. The liquor official tells The Times-News he doesn't have an estimate on the damage to the store or how much liquor was stolen or destroyed.

Maine topless coffee fire suspect mad at waitress

AUGUSTA, Maine (AP)—A state investigation says a man suspected of

burning down a Maine coffee shop that featured topless waitresses was mad at his girlfriend, who was having an affair with the owner. The state fire marshal's office released an affidavit Friday alleging 48-year-old Raymond Bellavance Jr. used gasoline to start the fire in June 2009 because the woman, a waitress, was in a sexual relationship with Donald Crabtree, owner of the Grand View Topless Coffee Shop. The affidavit says before the fire, Bellavance made statements that he was going to burn the shop. He confronted his girlfriend two

hours beforehand. Bellavance, who is charged with arson, made his first appearance in district court by video Friday. His bail was continued at \$200,000. His next court appearance is July 27.

Border Patrol arrests 7 in 100-mile Calif. chase

SAN DIEGO (AP)—Authorities say a man led Border Patrol agents on a 100-mile chase from the U.S.-Mexico border into Southern California before the driver and six suspected undocumented immigrants stopped and surrendered

in Irvine. Border Patrol Agent Michael Jimenez says an agent saw a sport utility vehicle slow down in Otay Mesa, Calif., near the border early Saturday, and six men jumped in. Another agent tried to pull the man over, but he sped onto Route 905 and eventually to Interstate 5, where he reached speeds over 100 mph. The pursuit ended in Orange County at about 2:25 a.m. when the man pulled off at an exit. Jimenez says the driver and passengers were taken into the custody of the Border Patrol. There were no injuries or damages from the chase.

Asia

Hunt for clues after India crash kills 158; 8 live



Officials investigate the scene of Saturday's fatal plane crash of Air India Express in Mangalore, in the southern Indian state of Karnataka, Sunday, May 23, 2010.

MANGALORE, India (AP)—Investigators frantically sifted through the rubble of a crashed plane Sunday looking for the black boxes—the cockpit voice recorder and the flight data recorder—after India's worst air crash in more than a decade killed 158 people.

Eight people survived Saturday's crash of an Air India Boeing 737-800 that overshoot a hilltop runway in southern India and plunged over a cliff, officials said.

At least some of the survivors managed to jump from the wreckage just before it burst into flames.

Recovery of the black boxes is crucial for determining what went wrong with the aircraft as it came for landing after a flight from Dubai in the United Arab Emirates.

On Sunday, dozens of grieving relatives arrived from Dubai and the southern Indian states of Karnataka and Kerala to claim the bodies of their dear ones.

Air India spokesman K. Swaminathan said Sunday that all eight of the survivors were hospitalized and none had died overnight, as some Indian media had reported.

Investigators used cutters to search for the black boxes in the twisted wreckage of the aircraft, which was scattered along the hillside of thick grass and trees just outside Mangalore's Bajpe airport.

After the first few minutes of the crash on



Saturday, there were no more survivors to be found around what remained of the Air India Express flight from Dubai to this port city. Instead, scores of burned bodies were pulled from the blackened tangle of aircraft cables, twisted metal, charred trees and mud at the crash site. Many of the dead were strapped into their seats, their bodies burned beyond recognition.

Air India, the country's national carrier,

runs inexpensive flights under the Air India Express banner to Dubai and other Middle Eastern destinations where millions of Indians are employed.

Weeping relatives of the victims visited hospitals where the bodies have been kept.

Ummer Farook Mohammed, a survivor burned on his face and hands, said it felt like a tire burst after the plane landed. "There was a loud bang, and the plane caught fire," he said.

"The plane shook with vibrations and split into two," G.K. Pradeep, another survivor, told CNN-IBN television. He jumped out of the aircraft with four others into a pit, he said. Moments later, a large explosion set off a blaze that consumed the wreckage, he said. It was not immediately clear if all the survivors escaped in the same way.

An Associated Press photo showed two rescuers running up a hill carrying a young girl covered in foam to waiting medics. Though no details were available, the girl was believed to have died, because officials said the only female survivor was an adult.

The plane was carrying 160 passengers—all Indian—and six crew members, Air India official Anup Srivastava said. Four infants and 19 other children were among the passengers. The British pilot, who was of Serbian origin, and an Indian co-pilot were among the dead, officials said.

Japan leader apologizes over US base on Okinawa

TOKYO (AP)—Japan's embattled prime minister apologized Sunday to the people of Okinawa that he is ditching his campaign promise to move a U.S. military base off the island—a concession that is likely to further erode his grip on power.

During his party's campaign for last year's elections that swept him to power, Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama had promised to relocate U.S. Marine Corps' Futenma Air Station off of Okinawa, perhaps even out of Japan.

But he has recently conceded that the government will be going back to an earlier plan, or a slightly modified version of that plan, chiseled by the former govern-

ing party: Building another base on Okinawa, but in a coastal area less crowded than the residential sector where Futenma is now located.

"The relocation of Futenma will have to stay in Okinawa," Hatoyama said in a meeting with Okinawa prefectural chief Hirokazu Nakaima. "I apologize from the bottom of my heart for the confusion that I have caused the people of Okinawa in not being able to keep my promise."

Many local leaders, including Nakaima, are opposed to keeping the military base on the semitropical island.

"I must tell you that your decision is ex-

tremely regrettable and very difficult to accept," Nakaima said.

The people of Okinawa have long complained about the noise, jet-crash dangers and worries about crime that come from housing more than half of the 47,000 U.S. troops in Japan, stationed under the bilateral defense alliance.

Hatoyama has seen his popularity ratings plunge in recent months—as voters increasingly are disenchanted with his failure to act on a number of campaign pledges, including the Futenma issue as well as promises for toll-free highways and cash payments for babies.

Insurgents attack NATO's southern Afghan base

KABUL, Afghanistan (AP)—The Taliban claimed responsibility Sunday for a nighttime assault on NATO's biggest base in southern Afghanistan. Insurgents firing rockets, mortars and automatic weapons tried to storm Kandahar Air Field—the second such attack on a major military installation this week.

Several coalition troops and civilian employees were wounded in the assault Saturday night, but there were no reports of deaths, officials said.

A Canadian Press news agency report from Kandahar said artillery and machine gun fire reverberated through the base, about 300 miles (500 kilometers) southwest of Kabul, several hours after the attack began. Militants unleashed rockets and mortars about 8 p.m. (15:30 GMT) and then tried unsuccessfully to storm the northern perimeter, officials said.

Taliban spokesman Qari

Yousef Ahmadi told the Associated Press that its fighters attacked the base from two sides and fired more than 15 rockets.

It was the third major attack on NATO forces in Afghanistan in six days.

The attacks follow a Taliban announcement of a spring offensive against NATO forces and Afghan government troops—their response to a promise by the Obama administration to squeeze the Taliban out of their strongholds in the southern province of Kandahar.

On Tuesday, a Taliban suicide bomber attacked a NATO convoy in the capital, killing 18 people including six NATO service members including five Americans and a Canadian. The next day, dozens of Taliban militants attacked the main U.S. military base—Bagram Air Field—killing an American contractor in fighting that lasted more than eight hours.

ASIAN BRIEFS

US to work closely with new RP leader

MANILA, Philippines (AP)—The U.S. ambassador pledged Friday to work closely with Philippine president-apparent Benigno Aquino III at their first meeting since the May 10 elections. Ambassador Harry Thomas Jr. said the polls reflected the will of the Filipino people although "there were some bumps and bruises, but that is to be expected in any country. We have that in the United States." The Philippines is a long-time U.S. ally. The countries have a bilateral defense treaty, and American counterterrorism training in southern Philippines has been credited with helping Filipino troops make gains against Muslim militants in the predominantly Christian nation. Asked if President Barack Obama had a message for Aquino, Thomas said the U.S. would like to respect the country's electoral process and wait for the Philippines' Congress to formally proclaim election results. Aquino said they talked about the status of bilateral ties and areas of concern. He did not elaborate.

Investigator: 2 detained admit aiding NYC bomb try

ISLAMABAD (AP)—Two men detained in Pakistan admitted with pride that they helped the suspect in the attempted Times Square bombing, and one of the men angrily accused his interrogators of "siding with

the infidels," a senior intelligence official said Saturday. The pair are among six men officials say have been detained in Pakistan for alleged ties to Faisal Shahzad, a Pakistani-American arrested in the United States two days after the failed May 1 attack in New York. Like Shahzad, the detainees are all from their country's urban elite, including several who were educated in the United States. Details about the six were released late Friday, though officials have not said when they were detained. Five were picked up in the capital, Islamabad, and one is co-owner of a posh catering company that the U.S. Embassy said was suspected of ties to terrorist groups.

Truck-bus collision kills 32 in China

BEIJING (AP)—A head-on collision between a truck and bus in northeastern China killed 32 people and another 21 injured early Sunday. The accident happened along a section of highway undergoing road maintenance in Fuxin City in Liaoning province, the official Xinhua News Agency said. The truck was traveling on the wrong side of the road when it plowed head-on into the bus, bursting into flames on impact, said an official from the Liaoning provincial transport department who gave his surname as Wang. All three people aboard the truck died immediately, and the bus driver and 27 of the passengers died. The remaining 21 injured passengers were hospitalized.

World

Astronomer Copernicus reburied as hero in Poland

FROMBORK, Poland (AP)—Nicolaus Copernicus, the 16th-century astronomer whose findings were condemned by the Roman Catholic Church as heretical, was reburied by Polish priests as a hero on Saturday, nearly 500 years after he was laid to rest in an unmarked grave.

His burial in a tomb in the cathedral where he once served as a church canon and doctor indicates how far the church has come in making peace with the scientist whose revolutionary theory that the Earth revolves around the Sun helped usher in the modern scientific age.

Copernicus, who lived from 1473 to 1543, died as a little-known astronomer working in a remote part of northern Poland, far from Europe's centers of learning. He had spent years laboring in his free time developing his theory, which was later condemned as heretical by the church because it removed Earth and humanity from their central position in the universe.

His revolutionary model was based on complex mathematical calculations and his naked-eye observations of the heavens because the telescope had not yet been invented.

After his death, his remains rested in an unmarked grave beneath the floor of the cathedral in Frombork, on Poland's Baltic coast, the exact location unknown.

On Saturday, his remains were blessed with holy water by some of Poland's highest-ranking clerics before an honor guard ceremoniously carried his coffin through the imposing red brick cathedral and lowered it back into the



Students hold their school's banner with a portrait of Copernicus in front of the coffin with the remains of astronomer Nicolaus Copernicus, in the cathedral in Frombork, northern Poland, Saturday, May 22, 2010. AP

same spot where part of his skull and other bones were found in 2005.

A black granite tombstone now identifies him as the founder of the heliocentric theory, but also a church canon, a cleric ranking below a priest. The tombstone is decorated with a model of the solar system, a golden sun encircled by six of the planets.

At the urging of a local bishop, scientists began searching in 2004 for the astronomer's remains and even-

tually turned up a skull and bones of a 70-year-old man—the age Copernicus was when he died. A computer reconstruction made by forensic police based on the skull showed a broken nose and other features that resemble a self-portrait of Copernicus.

In a later stage of the investigation, DNA taken from teeth and bones matched that from hairs found in one of his books, leading the scientists to conclude with great probability that they

had finally found Copernicus.

In recent weeks, a wooden casket holding those remains has lain in state in the nearby city of Olsztyn, and on Friday they were toured around the region to towns linked to his life.

The pageantry comes 18 years after the Vatican rehabilitated the Italian astronomer Galileo Galilei, who was persecuted in the Inquisition for carrying the Copernican Revolution forward.

Abbas: no progress in indirect talks with Israel

RAMALLAH, West Bank (AP)—The Palestinians are ready to swap some land with Israel, although differences remain over the amount of territory to be traded, Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas said Saturday after two rounds of U.S.-led indirect peace talks.

The negotiations began earlier this month, with U.S. envoy George Mitchell shuttling between Abbas and Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu. Abbas' comments marked the first time a participant has provided details about the talks.

Abbas said the first round dealt with borders and security arrangements be-

tween Israel and the state the Palestinians hope to establish in the West Bank and Gaza Strip, with east Jerusalem as its capital.

Israel wants to annex major Jewish settlements in the war-won West Bank and east Jerusalem. In previous negotiations, the two sides agreed that Israel would swap some of its territory to compensate the Palestinians, but gaps remained on the amount of land to be traded.

Abbas dismissed recent media reports that the Palestinians are willing to

trade more land than in the past, saying: "We did not agree about the land area, but we agreed on the principle of swapping land (equal in quality and value)."

In 2008, the Palestinians offered to cede 1.9 percent of the West Bank to Netanyahu's predecessor, Ehud Olmert. Olmert sought a 6.5 percent swap.

It is not clear whether Netanyahu accepts the idea of a land swap, and if so, how much of the West Bank he wants to keep. Israel has moved nearly half a million of its citizens into dozens of

Israeli settlements in the West Bank and east Jerusalem since capturing those territories in the 1967 Mideast War.

Netanyahu spokesman Mark Reggev declined to comment on Abbas' remarks and would not say whether Netanyahu agreed to the principle of land swaps.



Abbas

Mexico suspends search for missing ex-candidate

MEXICO CITY (AP)—Mexican authorities suspended their investigation into the disappearance of a former presidential candidate Saturday at his relatives' request.

The Attorney General's Office said in a brief statement that the investigation in the case of Diego Fernandez de Cevallos has been halted "out of respect for the family's wishes."

Fernandez de Cevallos, who ran unsuccessfully for office in 1994, was reported missing May 15 after his abandoned vehicle was found near his ranch with traces of blood on a pair of scissors.

Diego Fernandez de Cevallos Gutierrez, the politician's son, released a

statement to the media late Friday asking authorities to "stay out of this process in order to help the negotiation."

The statement appeared to confirm that the family believes Fernandez de Cevallos was kidnapped. However, the Attorney General's Office has said it cannot confirm an abduction, and police have given no indication of his whereabouts.

A photo of a shirtless, blindfolded man resembling the politician appeared on social networking sites late Thursday.

The picture shows a grim-faced, gray-bearded man with a sheet of plastic in the background. The beard and shape of the face look like those of Fernandez de Cevallos, but the Attorney

General's Office has not confirmed the photo's authenticity.

The family's statement did not say whether talks had begun, if they had been contacted by kidnappers or what, if any, demands may have been made.

It is common for Mexican families to try to negotiate directly with kidnappers, but Fernandez de Cevallos' long-standing position in President Felipe Calderon's National Action Party, or PAN, makes his family's request unusual.

While Fernandez de Cevallos, 69, finished second in the 1994 presidential election, his campaign helped set the stage for the PAN's historic victory in 2000 that ended 71 years of single-party domination in Mexico.

WORLD BRIEFS

Supporters want ex-dictator in next Haiti election

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP)—A small group of red-and-black clad supporters carried pictures of ex-Haitian dictator Jean-Claude "Baby Doc" Duvalier on Saturday, calling for the ousted ruler to return and participate in post-quake presidential elections. About 200 people wound through the Port-au-Prince suburb of Petionville, which along with other areas home to wealthy Haitians was a one-time center of the leader's support. They also carried pictures of his bespectacled father, the late Francois "Papa Doc" Duvalier. Their clothes were the colors of the dictatorial-era Haitian flag. Saturday is the anniversary of the date in 1959 when the father founded his Tonton Macoute secret police. The force officially known as the Militia of National Security Volunteers killed, tortured and extorted from countless Haitians.

Nations declare support to Somalia

ISTANBUL (AP)—Dozens of nations pledged Saturday to help Somalia build a strong police and military, achieve peace and stability and eradicate piracy that has plagued international maritime trade. The countries, meeting at a U.N.-sponsored conference for Somalia, said that strengthening law enforcement in the impoverished and lawless African nation was essential given the chaotic situation and deepening divisions among militant groups. There were, however, few concrete pledges. "If we do not tackle the basic causes onshore, we will never be able to stop the piracy offshore," U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon said at the end of the conference in Istanbul. "Despite the risk...the U.N. and the international community will not stand by and watch Somalia's struggle alone."

Ethiopia votes, with ruling party favored to win

ADDIS ABABA, Ethiopia (AP)—Ethiopians began voting in national elections Sunday, in a vote closely watched by international observers and by critics who say the U.S.-allied ruling party has intimidated voters and challengers to secure an easy victory.

Opposition members and the ruling party's critics say the poll will likely lead to a new decade of power for Prime Minister Meles Zenawi, who seized control of the Horn of Africa country in a 1991 coup.

Meles' Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front denies it repressed its opponents and says candidates have been able to campaign freely. But opposition members say they have been harassed and two of their campaigners have been killed under mysterious circumstances.

Opposition leaders say they worry the election may turn into a repeat of 2005's contentious poll, when about 100 opposition politicians and activists who challenged

the results were arrested.

The opposition and some analysts also say the government has systematically stifled the competition since 2005 and ensured an uneventful election by enacting restrictive laws that restrict aid groups from working on human rights issues and hinder the media.

While the ruling party and election officials have said the election would be free and fair, Ethiopia is frequently criticized for its human rights record, including by the U.S. State Department, which in a March report cited reports of "unlawful killings, torture, beating, abuse and mistreatment of detainees and opposition supporters by security forces, often acting with evident impunity."

Still, the U.S. considers Ethiopia an ally. Both countries want to curb Islamist extremism in Somalia, Ethiopia's unstable neighbor to the east. Ethiopia is reliant on billions of dollars of foreign aid, most of it from the U.S.

Health & Fitness

Heart group backs video games in obesity campaign

By JOEL SCHECTMAN
AP BUSINESS WRITER

NEW YORK (AP)—Talk about strange bedfellows. The American Heart Association and Nintendo Co. are teaming up to promote the popular Wii video game console, as the health advocacy group concedes that its campaign for traditional exercise isn't working.

The surprising partnership, announced Monday, comes amid growing concern about obesity among kids who spend much of their time watching television and playing video games.

Nintendo will be able to brand its Wii products with the AHA's iconic heart logo to let consumers know that the organization considers the items a healthy choice. Nintendo will donate \$1.5 million to the AHA as part of the partnership.

"We can keep beating the drum on traditional exercise and make small changes to the obesity epidemic, or we can try something that is really provocative and new," Clyde Yancy, the AHA's president, said in an interview.

Numerous studies show a correlation between obesity and the amount of time children spend with television and video games. Jeffrey Levi, executive director of Trust for America's Health, said the best solution is simply to cut the cord and encourage youths to spend less



Erica Maynard, left, and David Young demonstrate the Wii Fit Plus, Monday, May 17, 2010 in New York. The American Heart Association and Nintendo are working together to show how active-play video games contribute to healthy living.

time in front of screens.

But the AHA said it is endorsing the Wii because it will encourage sedentary Americans to take the first step toward fitness. With 70 percent of Americans doing no regular physical activity at all, the AHA wants to find a way to reach out to people turned off by gyms and traditional sports.

The organization said its studies show that 40 percent of those

who don't exercise say that it's not entertaining enough. The AHA says the Wii addresses the fun factor.

The Wii, which has sold more than 30 million consoles across the Americas, comes with a controller that encourages people to physically move as they play. Sports-style games such as baseball and boxing let players move their arms to simulate the pitching of a ball or the throw-

ing of a punch. Nintendo also makes a foot pad accessory, the Wii Fit, that allows players to try dance steps or yoga.

The heart icon covers the Wii console itself along with two of its more active games, Wii Fit Plus and Wii Sports Resort.



A package for the Wii Fit Plus bears the logo of the American Heart Association, Monday, May 17, 2010 in New York.

Study: A heart attack shouldn't kill your sex life

MARILYNN MARCHIONE
AP MEDICAL WRITER

Surviving a heart attack can kill your sex life.

But it doesn't have to, and a new study shows doctors play a key role in whether it does.

Patients were less likely to resume having sex if their doctors did not talk about when it was safe, the study found.

Many heart attack survivors fear that a trust could land them back in the hospital—or even in the graveyard. But the chance of that is extremely small, doctors say.

"People perceive it might kill them. And it's not just the person with the heart attack, but also their partner," said Dr. Stacy Tessler Lindau, a gynecologist and sexuality researcher at the University of Chicago.

"If you can walk up two flights of stairs or do moderate exercise, then it's OK to have sex," she said.

Lindau led the study, the largest ever on this topic, and was to present results Friday at an American Heart Association

conference in Washington.

It involved 1,184 male and 576 female heart attack survivors taking part in a bigger nationwide study, funded by the federal government. The average age was 60.

Less than half the men and only about a third of the women said advice about resuming sex was part of the instructions they got when leaving the hospital.

Even fewer had that talk with their doctors over the next year.

One year after their heart attacks, more than two-thirds of the men and 40 percent of the women reported some sexual activity. They were 30 percent to 40 percent more likely to be having sex if they had talked with a doctor about it.

Men were more likely to be sexually active and married before the heart attack, and to maintain their sex life after it.

Some people actually reported more sex after their heart attacks, but this was the exception rather than the rule, Lindau said.

A heart attack should not keep people from enjoying sex, said Dr. Edward Havranek, a cardiologist

at Denver Health Medical Center and leader of the Heart Association conference.

"The risk of having a heart attack during sex is really, really low," he said. "The amount of actual physical exertion people have during sex is actually lower than one might think. It's not as demanding as shoveling snow."

Doctors say it is safe to resume sex as soon as the patient feels better and can handle moderate exercise. Chest pain during sex means you should stop and consult a doctor, Lindau said.

Depression and mood swings are common after a heart attack and can dampen interest in sex, but this usually goes away within three months, says advice from the Heart Association.

It has these tips for resuming sex:

- Prepare by improving your physical condition and personal hygiene.

- Choose a time when you're rested, relaxed and free from daily stress.

- Wait one to three hours after eating a full meal.

- Pick a familiar, peaceful setting that's free from interruptions.

Expert panel to view confidential swine flu papers

By FRANK JORDANS
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

GENEVA (AP)—An expert panel investigating the World Health Organization's response to last year's swine flu outbreak said Wednesday it wants to see confidential exchanges between the U.N. body and drug companies.

The 29-member panel will seek WHO records and correspondence from before and after the H1N1 strain was declared a pandemic in June, said committee chairman Harvey Fineberg, who is also president of the Institute of Medicine in Washington.

"We will want to have access to certain confidential documents that may be in place here at WHO or elsewhere," Fineberg told reporters in Geneva.

The documents include "contractual or letters of understanding" between the pharmaceuti-

cal industry and WHO, he said. "Some of the agreements with industry that we would like to examine have been considered confidential," but so far all of the panel's requests have been met, he said.

WHO spokesman Gregory Hartl said he couldn't immediately comment.

Under criticism for how the outbreak was handled, WHO Director-General Margaret Chan convened the panel last month and urged its members to conduct a "credible and independent review" that she promised would be transparent.

The Geneva-based agency has denied allegations that it gave pharmaceutical companies privileged access to national decision-makers.

Governments around the world spent millions of dollars (euros) buying antiviral drugs and flu vaccines in anticipation of a serious outbreak that

Many of the Wii games are less physically demanding. Some puzzle titles, for instance, let players adjust shapes through small twists of the wrist.

Wii players say that the level of physical exertion varies greatly by player.

Maria Lambiris, an 18-year-old illustrations student at the Fashion Institute of Technology in New York, said the game system recently helped her lose five pounds.

"You really get into it sometimes and you can use your whole body," Lambiris said.

But her classmate Maki Yang, 19, was quick to point out that sometimes it's easier and more fun to cheat.

"You can just do this with your wrist," Yang said while flicking her wrist slightly, "and you do even better in the game."

But while many of the games may not offer the same level of physical activity as traditional sports, they may help get some people started on a healthier lifestyle.

"It is a first step for someone who is entirely sedentary," Yancy said.

Yancy said that once that person becomes motivated, he or she can access a website Nintendo and the AHA are developing to help monitor exercise and diet plans.

Rival game console makers Microsoft Corp. and Sony Corp., cognizant of the Wii's popularity, are also developing motion controllers. Microsoft's Natal, for instance, wouldn't require a physical controller; players would use their bodies to control their video game characters. The AHA said it wasn't currently in discussions with those companies.

never happened.

Among the companies that benefited was Switzerland's Roche Group, which saw sales of its Tamiflu antiviral medication jump by 2 billion Swiss francs (\$1.74 billion) last year. British firm GlaxoSmithKline PLC sold both vaccines and its antiviral Relenza, while France's Sanofi-Aventis SA and U.S.-based Baxter International made vaccines. Some companies donated medicine to poor countries.

WHO has confirmed 18,036 deaths from the H1N1 strain over the past year—far fewer than would have died from seasonal flu during the same period.

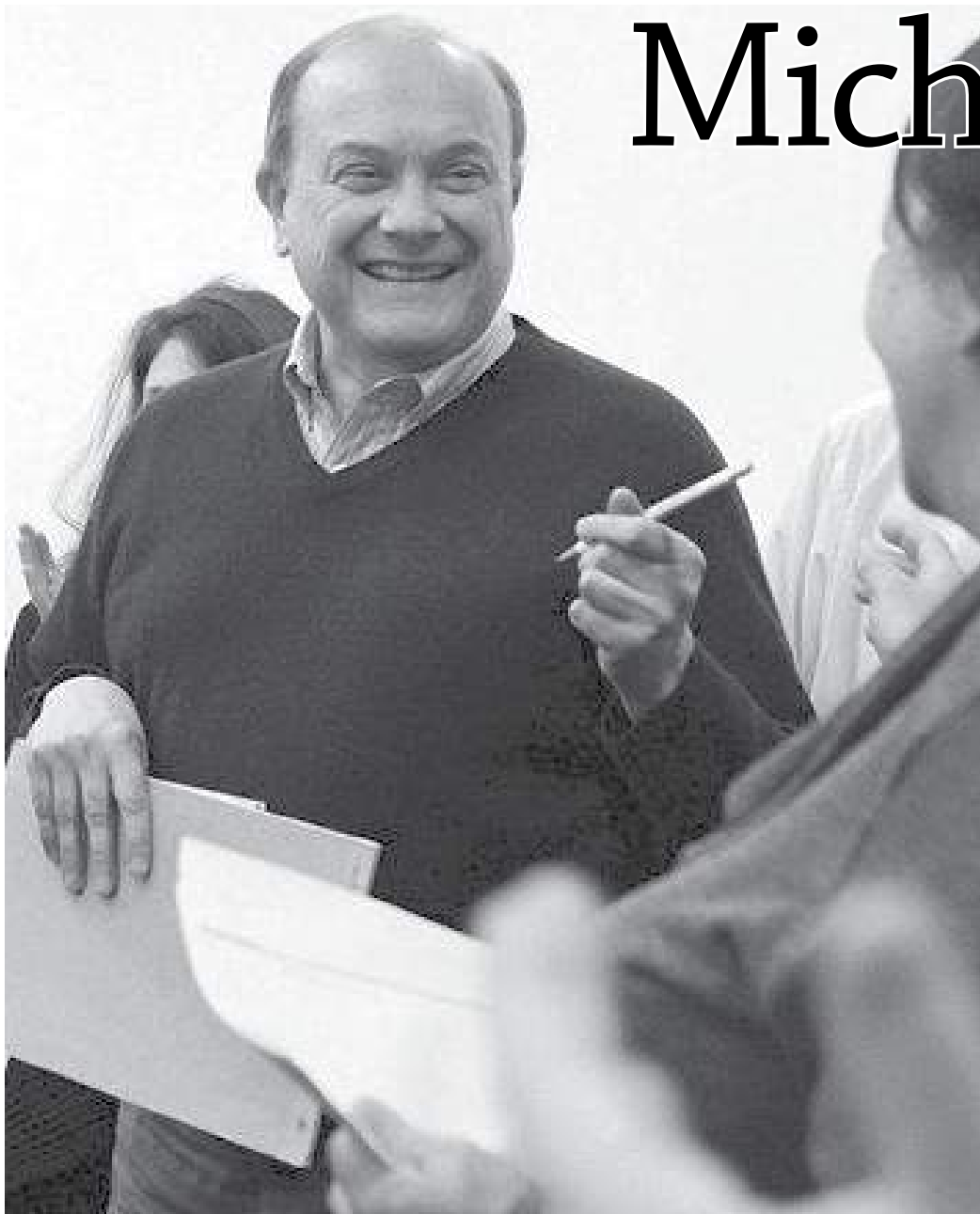
Chan said this week at a meeting of WHO's 193 member states that the world had been "just plain lucky" that swine flu wasn't deadlier.

The panel's final report is expected to be finished next year, and will be made public, Fineberg said.

Life & Style

Michael Kuchwara,

AP drama critic, dies at 63



AP
In this Monday, March 1, 2010 photo, Associated Press Drama Critic Michael Kuchwara reacts at the New York headquarters to his surprise celebration for 40 years with the company.

NEW YORK (AP)—Michael Kuchwara, The Associated Press' longtime drama critic whose thoughtful, fair-minded reviews made him beloved and respected in the theater world and influential beyond, died Saturday night. He was 63.

Kuchwara, who had held his position since 1984 and recently celebrated his 40th anniversary with the AP, died at Beth Israel Hospital in Manhattan of complications from idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis, a lung disease that causes scarring. He entered the hospital May 10.

Ponder Henley, his brother-in-law, said Kuchwara was surrounded by family and was listening to music from his favorite show "Gypsy" on his iPod when he died.

"Michael touched so many of you, his friends, family and business associates. Your outpouring of love and support these

last days and weeks were a great comfort to Michael and to his family. We will miss him dearly and these next few days will be challenging, but we know that Michael is without pain and at rest," Kuchwara's family said in a written statement.

Kuchwara reviewed plays by Edward Albee and August Wilson, Stephen Sondheim and Arthur Miller, his work appearing in thousands of papers and on websites around the world.

"As theater reviewers have been dropped, newspapers increasingly pick up the Associated Press reviews, making Michael Kuchwara arguably the most influential legit critic in America," proclaimed Variety writer Robert Hofler in July 2009.

Said Kathleen Carroll, the AP's executive editor: "For millions of readers, a Mike Kuchwara review was like a chat with a pal just back from a show. He was candid about stunners and stinkers he saw, but never gushy

or mean. And his affection for the theater and for audiences infused every review."

Kuchwara, commenting in a 2006 video that appeared on the American Theatre Wing's website, had a plainer take on his role as someone whose reviews often appeared hundreds or thousands of miles from Broadway: "I'm writing for an audience that may never see the shows that I'm writing about."

His favorite musical was "Gypsy," which he felt was one of the best musicals ever written because the entire story could be heard in the first four notes of the overture which begins the song "I Had A Dream."

"Mike's likable and intelligent presence was a comforting constant in the theatre community. He has always been one of the extra special people in our world, and will be deeply missed by everyone who knew him," said Charlotte St. Martin, executive director of The Broadway League.

Martin Gardner, math and science writer, dies

NORMAN, Okla. (AP)—Prolific mathematics and science writer Martin Gardner, known for popularizing recreational mathematics and debunking paranormal claims, has died.

James Gardner said his father died unexpectedly Saturday at Norman Regional Hospital. He

was 95. He had been living at an assisted living facility in Norman.

Martin Gardner wrote features and stories for several children's magazines in the 1950s. His creation of paper-folding puzzles led to his publication in Scientific American magazine, where he wrote his "Mathematical Games"

column for 25 years.

Gardner also wrote a column for Skeptical Inquirer magazine and authored more than 50 books.

His son said he had an "inquisitive mind" and "was always seeking answers."

Services are pending.

A past president of the New York Drama Critics' Circle, his hundreds upon hundreds of reviews covered a quarter-century of blockbusters and failures in the theater world.

"He never seemed remotely jaded or sour, he always seemed happy to be at the theater and brought incredible good will to it, which is rare in any profession," said Ben Brantley, chief theater critic of The New York Times.

He raved about "The Producers" in 2001, calling it a "demented, deliciously funny stage version" of the Mel Brooks film. "Merriment has been a rare commodity on Broadway in recent years. What with Sondheim-serious musicals and bloated Brit spectacles, genuine funny business has been in short supply. Brooks and (director-choreographer Susan) Stroman have been fortunate, too, in finding a cast that can do 'funny.'"

He was lukewarm about Tony Kushner's 1993 AIDS drama "Angels in America: Millen-

nium Approaches," saying it was "an extravagant political epic, overstuffed and sometimes pretentious, but also containing some wonderful writing that's tough and, weirdly enough, highly poetic." He said it fell "short of being a completely satisfying theater event."

He described "Billy Elliot," about a coal miner's son who dreams to dance as "a very intimate personal story. It celebrates being true to yourself and finding your place in the world—even against the most adverse of circumstances."

"The Lion King" is a rare theater experience," he wrote in 1998. He called it an "intelligent spectacle, extravagance with a purpose—and a heart."

He wanted every play to succeed, but didn't pretend all would. "You may need a drink—and not necessarily water—after viewing 'A Cool Dip in the Barren Saharan Crick,'" he wrote in March, looking sadly upon "Kia Corthron's messy message play that places water

right at the center of its convoluted story."

Born in Scranton, Pa., Kuchwara was a graduate of Syracuse University, and had a master's degree in journalism from the University of Missouri. Before being named drama critic, he worked for the AP in Chicago as a general assignment editor and reporter and in New York on its main editing desk for national news.

According to his sister, Pat Henley, he loved theater so much as a child that the local newsstand would make sure to save him a copy of Variety. While his peers read comic books, Kuchwara kept up with the celebrities in Life magazine.

"My first really memorable theater experience was at the Pocono Playhouse, a long, long forgotten comedy called 'The Third Best Sport,' which I think came to Broadway and died in about two weeks," Kuchwara said in 2006, referring to a bawdy comedy starring Celeste Holm as an 8-year-old girl.

In celebration of his New Life

THOMAS IGISOMAR SAURES

December 31, 1948 — May 19, 2010

In his passing, he now joins his:

Mother: Dolores I. Saures
Father: Vicente L. Saures
Brothers/Sisters: Alonzo Igisomar, Vicente Saures, Maria Warakai, Ana S. Teregeyo, Isidro Saures, Carbullido Igisomar

His memory will forever live in the hearts of his:

Wife: Rita L. Saures
Children: Michael L. Saures/Jen (Valerie, Jun, Jovan, Travis, Shanice, Tenisha, Sherese, Nicole)
Vina Claire L. Saures
Tanya L. Saures/Schneider (Thomas Jude)
Rebecca S. Warakai/Nelson (Kaishia, Franklin)

Brothers / Sister & in-laws:

†Crispina/John Norita, Vicente Cruz Laniyo/Herminda, †Jose Laniyo, †Cecilia/†Nick Mettao, Catalina/Vicente Tebit, Frances/Arnold Kapileo

He is survived by numerous cousins, nieces, nephews & godchildren.

Rosary is being prayed nightly at 7:30 p.m. at his residence in Chalan Laulau, behind IT&E. On Wednesday, May 26, 2010, his remains will leave CHC at 3:00 p.m. and be escorted to his residence for viewing. Mass for Christian Burial will be on Thursday, May 27, 2010 at 3:00 p.m. at San Jose Church. Interment will follow immediately at Mt. Carmel Cemetery.

Si Yu'us Ma'ase & Ghilisow.

Rita L. Saures & Family

Burton and his film jury judge so-so Cannes lineup

CANNES, France (AP)—Tim Burton and a jury of his peers in the world of cinema have a tough task ahead: sorting through a mixed bag of 19 entries competing for top honors at the Cannes Film Festival.

Burton heads the nine-member jury that was busy Saturday watching the last of the films competing for the Palme d'Or, the main prize at the world's most prestigious cinema showcase. The 12-day festival ends Sunday night with a ceremony to announce winners selected by director Burton and his jury—which includes actors Kate Beckinsale, Benicio Del Toro and Giovanna Mezzogiorno, filmmaker Shekhar Kapur and composer Alexandre Desplat.

Among the handful of films that earned largely favorable reviews are the British ensemble drama "Another Year" from director Mike Leigh, a past Palme d'Or winner for "Secrets and Lies, and French filmmaker Xavier Beauvois' "Of Gods and Men," a tale of martyrdom based on the true story of seven monks beheaded during Algeria's civil war in 1996.

Two other past Palme d'Or winners also are in the running—Britain's Ken Loach ("The Wind that Shakes the Barley") with his Iraq War thriller "Route Irish" and Iran's Abbas Kiarostami ("Taste of Cherry") with his cryptic love story "Certified Copy," starring Juliette Binoche.

Mexican director Alejandro Gonzalez Inarritu, whose "Babel" won him the Cannes directing prize in 2006, is competing again with the well-received "Biutiful," featuring a stellar performance from Javier Bardem as a father supporting his family through various criminal rackets in Barcelona.

South Korea's Lee Chang-dong also earned warm reviews for "Poetry," his gentle drama about a grandmother who finds solace writing poems amid the onset of Alzheimer's and troubles with her broody grandson. The lone



Naomi Watts poses for a portrait after an interview with the Associated Press during the 63rd international film festival, in Cannes, southern France, Friday, May 21, 2010.

American film in competition—Doug Liman's "Fair Game," starring Naomi Watts as ousted CIA operative Valerie Plame and Sean Penn as her husband, Joe Wilson—received solid but restrained praise. Liman said he already felt rewarded that Plame and Wilson, who came to Cannes for the premiere, liked the film.

"Any awards that flow this way really flow to Joe and Val, and Naomi Watts, who delivers the performance of a lifetime," said Liman, adding that the film's standing ovation after its premiere already was prize enough. "Just being accepted into competition and being given the kind of premiere we were given, I'm not sure we could ever ask for more than that."

The competition was heavy on emerging talent, unlike last year's Cannes festival, whose contenders included films from such established directors as Loach, Quentin Tarantino, Pedro Almodovar, Ang Lee, Jane Campion, Lars von Trier and Michael Haneke, whose "The White Ribbon" won the Palme d'Or.

This year's big names mostly screened their films outside the competition, among them Ridley Scott with opening-night premiere "Robin Hood," Oliver Stone with "Wall Street: Money Never Sleeps," Woody Allen with "You Will Meet a Tall Dark Stranger" and Stephen Frears with "Tamara Drewe," a light, breezy tale that Cannes crowds cheered amid the generally gloomy tone of the awards contenders.

"Tamara Drewe" stars Gemma Arterton as a former ugly duckling who returns to her hometown as a striking beauty after a nose job. Frears offered a candid wisecrack to explain why his comedy was not competing for prizes with the heavy dramas.

"It's not in competition because it simply didn't seem appropriate. And also, I didn't want to lose," Frears said. "At one stroke, I avoided that humiliating end. These are serious people here. It's very, very cheeky to turn up with a film like this."

Calif. jury acquits man in killing of rapper

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A jury acquitted a man Friday of killing up-and-coming Atlanta rapper Dolla during a shooting last year at a crowded, upscale Los Angeles mall.

Jurors rejected prosecutors' contentions that the killing of Dolla, whose real name was Roderick Anthony Burton II, was a callous act of apparent revenge.

Burton and his accused shooter, Aubrey Louis Berry, had been involved in a fight at an Atlanta club less than two weeks before the shooting last May.

Berry's attorney had contended the shooting was an act of self-defense, emphasizing that Burton—a protégé of hip-hop artist Akon—glorified a violent gangster lifestyle in his rap lyrics and online videos.

Berry, who has remained jailed since the May 18, 2009, shooting, hugged his attorney but was otherwise unemotional after the verdict.

Burton's mother, Dayna Robinson, sobbed.

"Oh please, somebody help me,"

Robinson said, as she and other family members filed out of the courtroom.

Deputy District Attorney Bobby Grace painted Berry as a killer who methodically aimed at Burton during the shooting, then ordered a valet to retrieve his rented sport utility vehicle while still clutching his gun.

In his closing arguments Monday, Grace claimed Berry had no remorse.

"Defendant Berry murdered Roderick Burton in cold blood, then tried to escape to Atlanta," Grace said.

Berry brought the gun to a business lunch at the mall. The men spotted each other at a restaurant and exchanged words in the valet area. It was then, Grace said, that Berry pulled his weapon and used it "as an instrument of death in a symphony of violence."

Grace said Berry drove around Burton as he was dying and began to plot his escape.

Defense Attorney Howard Price, however, painted a very different picture of Berry, who was soft-spoken last week as he testified about a series of in-



In this Tuesday, May 4, 2010 picture, Aubrey Louis Berry waits in a Los Angeles courtroom for the resumption of his trial on murder charges in the May 2009 shooting death of rapper Roderick Anthony Burton II, known as Dolla.

cidents that led up to the shooting.

The college-educated Berry said he worked in commercial marketing, in the music industry, and "never killed anything" growing up. Price portrayed Burton, conversely, as someone who proclaimed a violent streak, bragging in his lyrics about carrying guns, singing "You be running when I shoot, I be shooting where you running" in one tune.

Price said Berry opened fire because Burton threatened to kill him and he feared he had a gun. The 24-year-old Atlanta resident was fearful because he believed the rapper had gang ties.

The jury on Friday found Berry not guilty of first degree murder and all other charges, including assault with a firearm.

Grace looked dazed after the verdict was read.

"Obviously, I'm disappointed," he told reporters.

When asked about Burton's gangster image, Grace said he hoped that wasn't the tipping point for the jurors.

"I would hate to think that the jurors' decision was based solely on lyrics," he said. "It appears they believed what the defendant had to say."

Burkle, Weinstens deny talks failed on Miramax

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Billionaire Ron Burkle and potential partners the Weinstein brothers denied reports Friday that talks to buy The Walt Disney Co.'s Miramax Films division were on the rocks.

The bidders sent out a statement saying, "The Weinstein brothers, The Weinstein Co. and Ron Burkle are all working towards a deal to purchase and operate Miramax."

Discussions were being slowed, mainly because of problems securing the Weinstein brothers as the company's managers, according to two people familiar with the matter who were not authorized to speak publicly and requested anonymity.

The Los Angeles Times reported earlier the talks had fallen apart.

Disney had been negotiating exclusively since mid-April with Burkle, a 57-year-old supermarket mogul, to sell him the niche movie label for about \$625 million. Hopes were high that a deal could be announced during the Cannes Film Festival in the south of France.

With the closing ceremony at Cannes just two days away, it looks increasingly likely that Harvey and Bob Weinstein would be left without a deal to announce at the event.

Sticky relations between the Weinstens and the movie studio they founded in 2005, The Weinstein Co., also were holding up the deal, the people familiar with the matter said.

Unresolved issues include how much time the Weinstens will devote to Miramax, which they founded and then sold to Disney for \$80 million in 1993, and how The Weinstein Co. would benefit from the arrangement.

Cracks in the relationship appeared last month, when Mark Cuban, the owner of the Dallas Mavericks and a Weinstein Co. investor, told Bloomberg News he had an issue with the studio amid widely reported talks of the Weinstens' involvement in a Miramax deal.

The Weinstein Co. board member Richard Koenigsberg quickly responded, saying Cuban's concerns had to do with the failure of "The Road" and its limited distribution in theaters. Koenigsberg offered the board's full support to the brothers' involvement in the deal to buy Miramax.

Other investors in The Weinstein Co. might share similar concerns about their principals focusing their attention elsewhere.

A Disney spokesman declined to comment.

The Weinstens founded Miramax, naming it after their parents, Miriam and Max, in 1979. They managed it under Disney ownership following its sale in 1993 but left following a public spat over Michael Moore's 2004 documentary "Fahrenheit 9/11," which Disney refused to distribute.

Miramax's Oscar-laden film library is full of prestigious films such as "My Left Foot" (1989), "Pulp Fiction" (1994) and "Good Will Hunting" (1997), and still makes money on home video and pay TV.

Included in the deal for Miramax are potentially five movies that are finished but haven't been released, including "The Switch," a comedy starring Jennifer Aniston and Jason Bateman.

Lindsay Lohan

expected in court Monday

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Lindsay Lohan is expected in court next week after missing a mandatory hearing on Thursday.

Lohan's attorney, Shawn Chapman Holley, says the 23-year-old actress will return to Los Angeles on Saturday and appear in court Monday morning.

After a few breezy days at the Cannes Film Festival, where she attended various events to promote her Linda Lovelace film and partied into the wee hours on the day she was supposed to be in court in Beverly Hills, Lohan is coming home to a litany of legal woes.

She was to be arrested upon her return to Los Angeles for missing the mandatory hearing, but a judge recalled the warrant late Thursday after Lohan posted bail.

Superior Court Judge Marsha Revel set bail at \$100,000, revoked Lohan's probation and imposed strict new conditions on the star, who was due in court for a progress report on her probation stemming from two arrests in 2007.

The judge ordered that Lohan be prohibited from drink-

ing any alcohol, required to wear an alcohol-monitoring bracelet and submit to random weekly drug testing.

"If she wanted to be here, it looks to the court that she could have been here," Revel said, frustrated at Lohan's absence.

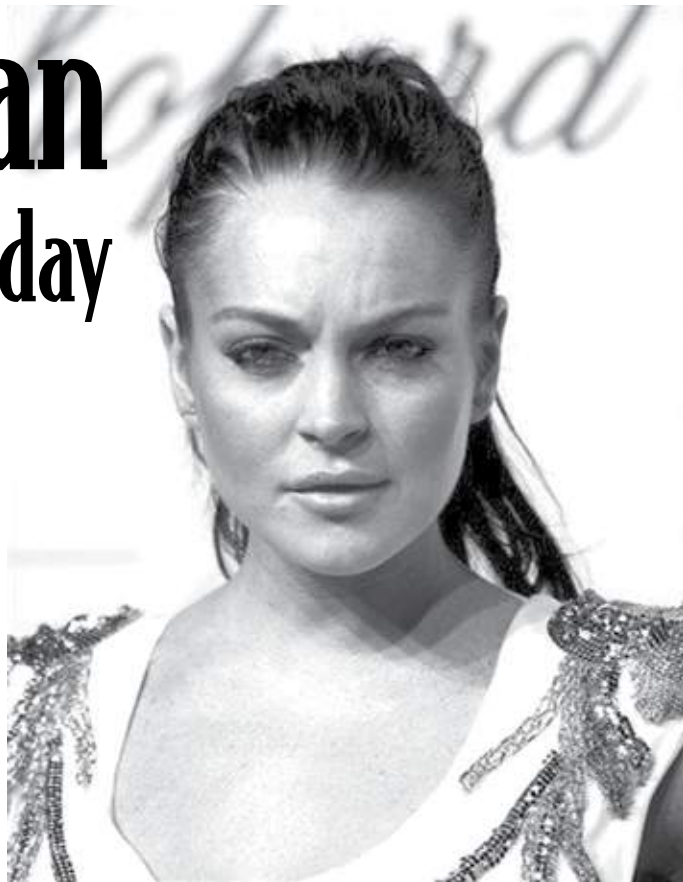
The actress, wearing short shorts and high heels, was partying on a yacht in the French Riviera until early Thursday morning, says celebrity photographer Phil Ramey, who posted the photos on his website tinseltown.com.

Holley said Lohan's passport was stolen while in Cannes and she was unable to return to Los Angeles in time for Thursday's hearing.

"She did, in fact, have airline tickets," Lohan's attorney told the judge.

Lohan has been on probation since August 2007 after pleading guilty to misdemeanor drug charges and no contest to three driving charges. The plea came after a pair of high-profile arrests earlier that year.

Despite spending 84 minutes in jail and performing mandato-



In this May 17, 2010 file photo, Lindsay Lohan arrives for an event during the 63rd international film festival, in Cannes, France.

ry service at the county morgue, Lohan has struggled repeatedly with the terms of her sentence. In October, a judge extended her probation for another year but a prosecutor warned the actress she faced jail time if she violated her probation.

The extension was the third time Lohan escaped punishment after her alcohol-education program notified the court the ac-

tress had violated its rules. Two of the instances were described as misunderstandings; the third was chalked up to a busy work schedule.

Revel said at Thursday's hearing that there is probable cause to believe Lohan may have violated her probation. A formal hearing will be held to determine if Lohan is in compliance with the court's conditions.

Casey James: No shirt, no regrets after 'Idol' run

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Casey James wants to appeal to more than the opposite sex in his post-"American Idol" music career, despite what judge Kara DioGuardi has to say about it.

During a teleconference Friday, the tall, sweet-smiling Texan said he likes to think his appeal goes beyond what DioGuardi has described as his core demographic of women and girls.

James also said he didn't regret taking his shirt off at DioGuardi's request during his first tryout with the judges. It may have put him in the contest, he said, and he was then able to prove his talent.

He took issue with one aspect of the "American Idol" format, saying the limitation on song length is a "real issue." Being able to perform longer tunes would "open up a realm of possibilities," James said.

Carrie Underwood launches flood relief fund

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)—"Temporary Home" isn't just Carrie Underwood's latest No. 1 single - it's also the living situation for thousands of Tennessee residents displaced by deadly flooding earlier this month.

That's why Underwood is launching the Temporary Home fund along with ACM Lifting Lives to help flood victims.

Underwood is using grants she would receive as the reign-

ing Academy of Country Music entertainer of the year for the fund. Lifting Lives is donating money from the taping of "ACM Presents: Brooks & Dunn - The Last Rodeo" tribute special that airs Sunday on CBS.

But he said he's the kind of guy who accepts what's happened and is happy about it.

"I continue to say it but it remains to be true: Everything happens for a reason," he said. On a darker note, James noted that the May 11 performance show marked the sixth anniversary of his near-fatal motorcycle accident, when he was taken by helicopter from the crash to a hospital.

The 27-year-old musician from Fort Worth made it to the top three on "American Idol" before he was eliminated by the voting audience this week.

James didn't predict a winner for next week's "American Idol" finale on Fox but predicted a "crazy good show" when Crystal Bowersox of Toledo, Ohio, and Lee DeWyze of Mount Prospect, Ill., both 24, compete for the title and a record contract.

Starting Thursday, people can donate \$10 by texting "ACM" to 501501. Underwood has taped a public service announcement that will air during the Brooks & Dunn special.

Family in free fall needs someone to provide a net

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

DEAR ABBY: My brother passed away a year ago, leaving a wife and five children. They are wonderful, well-behaved kids. Unfortunately, my brother appears to have been the one who kept everybody on schedule and made all the decisions. My sister-in-law just did whatever he said, deciding nothing on her own. Now that he's gone, the family seems to be falling apart.



Dear Abby

The kids spend very little time at home, and they never eat together as a family anymore—something I know is necessary these days to keep tabs on what the kids are up to. I could go into detail about how things have gone to pot, but I want to keep this brief. It breaks my heart to see it happen.

I would love to have a little chat with my sister-in-law to explain to her that she must step up to the plate and be the adult. How does one broach the subject without alienating her?

LOVING AUNT IN NEW JERSEY

DEAR LOVING AUNT: Start by telling this widowed mother of five that you are worried about her; that you're concerned she may be chronically depressed over her husband's death, and you think she may need to talk to her doctor.

A woman in her situation, someone who has never made a decision for herself since the day she was married (or maybe longer), is in a terrible pickle. She needs a mentor because she will have to learn self-sufficiency from the ground up. So be prepared to share every bit of wisdom you can with her.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: A child was found dead in our area. He died from blunt force trauma to his head. His mother had reported him missing, and 12 hours later his younger brother found his body. It's not being called murder, although everyone around here suspects it was.

I went to the visitation the first night, and I have never seen so many kids attend a funeral without a parent. I was appalled. You don't send children to a child's funeral alone. I felt terrible for them. They lost a good friend and didn't have their parents there to help them cope.

I realize that people have to work, but the visitation was from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. The funeral was at 11 a.m. the next day. One adult I spoke with said she didn't go because she couldn't stand to see the child that way. She couldn't take it, so I had to be there for her daughter.

Don't people understand it's not about them? Parents need to realize their kids may have a lot of questions and mixed-up emotions and need to talk. What do you think of this?

SAD MOM IN THE U.S.A.

DEAR SAD MOM: I think you have written an important letter. Parents, if this letter strikes a familiar chord, please wake up and reprioritize. Your children need you—especially at a time like this—to help them talk through any fears and anxieties they are experiencing.

■ ■ ■

DEAR ABBY: I was in and out of a relationship with "Bob" for four years, and we recently split up again. Last September I bought an airline ticket for him to accompany me on a Florida vacation, but we broke up, so I cashed in his ticket.

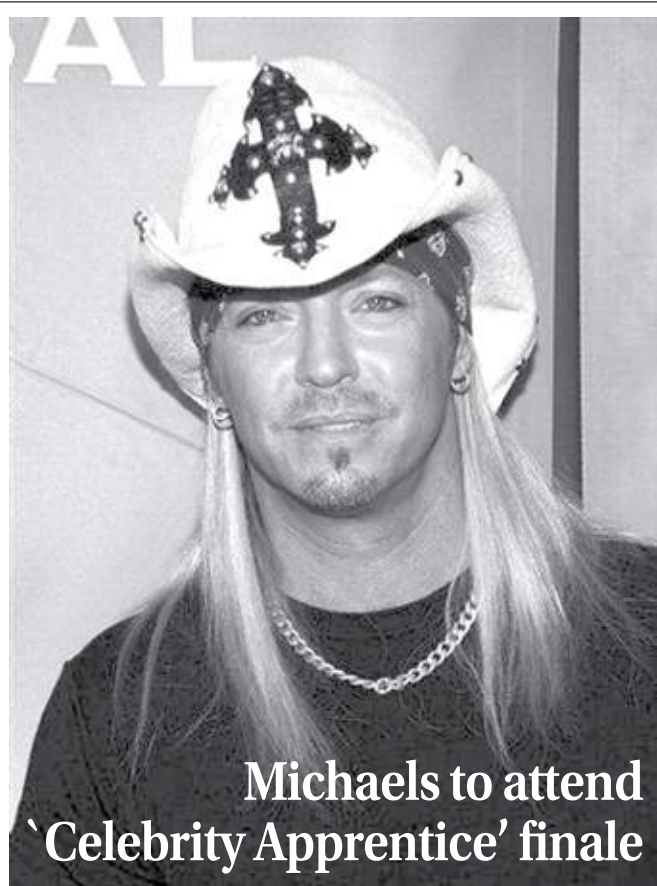
Bob keeps calling me and saying he wants his "present" so he can go away. I said, "No way!" Was I wrong?

HURT IN MASSACHUSETTS

DEAR HURT: Heck, no! The ticket was purchased with the understanding that Bob would accompany you to Florida. Because you are now on the outs (again) and it's not going to happen, why treat him to a free trip? Frankly, I think he has nerve to suggest otherwise, and if you're smart, the response you'll give him the next time he calls with his hand out will be, "Don't call me again."

■ ■ ■

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



Michaels to attend 'Celebrity Apprentice' finale

In this Jan. 10, 2010 photo Singer Bret Michaels arrives at the NBC Universal Winter 2010 press tour party in Pasadena, Calif.

LOS ANGELES (AP)—Bret Michaels is expected to attend the season finale of "The Celebrity Apprentice" despite suffering what doctors called a warning stroke earlier this week.

His publicist, Joann Mignano, said the rocker is receiving outpatient care and will be in New York on Sunday for the season's final episode of the NBC show.

Mignano previously con-

firmed Michaels had been diagnosed with a patent foramen ovale, or hole in the heart.

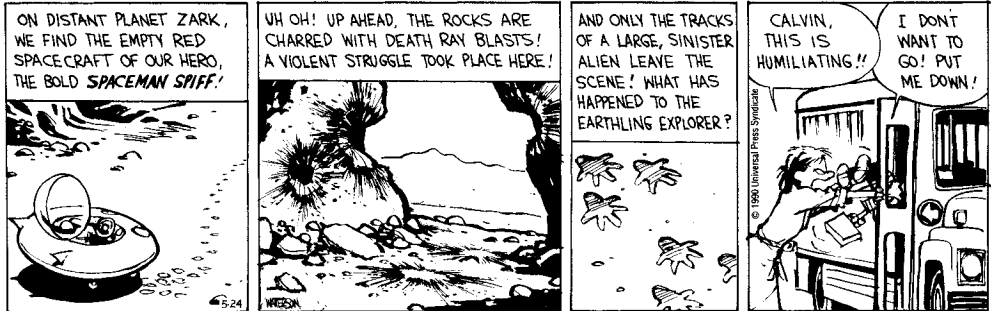
Doctors said the condition is operable and treatable and likely unrelated to the brain hemorrhage he suffered last month.

The 47-year-old, rocker-reality TV star was hospitalized this week after experiencing numbness on the left side of his body, particularly in his face and hands.

Pastimes

Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



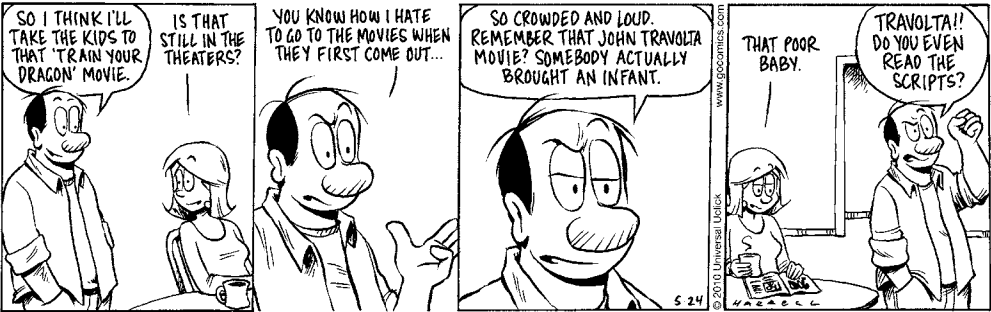
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



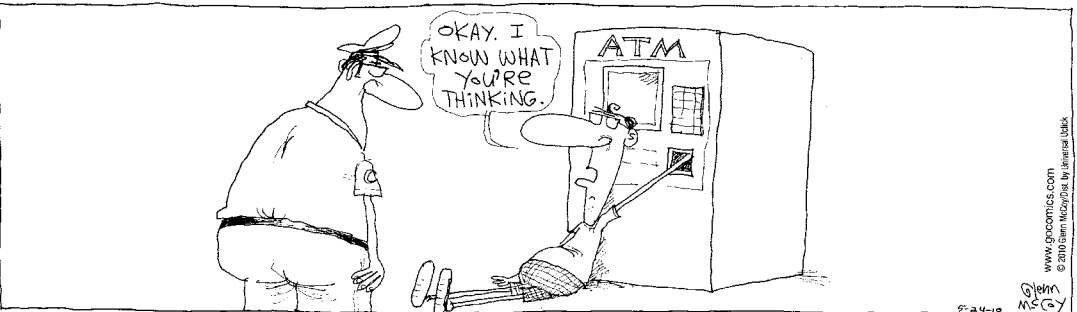
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Eggs
4 Violinist's need
7 Dueling sword ...
11 ... and its handle
13 "— la la!"
14 Volcano outflow
15 Cat's call
16 Gorilla
17 Basin accessory
18 Use a broom
20 Balkan native
22 — Vegas
24 Overuses the mirror
28 Con-founded
32 Provide
33 Help a criminal
34 Corn on the —
36 Ocean motion
37 Mythical river of forgetfulness
39 Take up the slack

DOWN

41 Grassy plains
43 "Hum-bug!"
44 Black
46 Swamp-like
50 "CSI"
53 Charged particle
55 Radius' neighbor
56 Beehive
57 Caustic solution
58 Authentic
59 Kindly bloke
60 De-pressed
61 Female sheep
63 Resistance measures
64 ABC
65 Last
66 "My bad"
67 Puppy
68 Last moment
69 Handle clumsily
70 Previous night
71 Listening organ
72 Shake-speare play
73 Chum
74 Exist
75 Dry, as wine
76 Tend a text
77 Un-dressed
78 Wit-nessed
79 Formal dance
80 Crumbly cheese
81 Speck
82 Lobster eater's item
83 A billion years
84 Talk on and on
85 Aptitude
86 Toy on a string
87 Merriment
88 Chew away at
89 Harvard rival
90 Oktober-fest vessel
91 Had dinner
92 Scooted
94 Fresh

Solution time: 24 mins.

Saturday's answer 5-24

STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call 1-900-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: John C. Reilly, 45; Priscilla Presley, 65; Patti LaBelle, 66; Bob Dylan, 69

Happy Birthday: Home and family must be your focus. The changes taking place can all be dealt with if you have a strong base to work from. Don't let someone else's burden become your own; spend your time working toward your own goals. Choose your projects wisely and you can move to a good position with lots of room for advancement. Your numbers are 3, 8, 18, 20, 23, 37, 42

ARIES (March 21-April 19): You'll find it difficult to control your emotions, especially if you are too vocal about how you feel. It's best to listen, observe and consider your options before making a decision that will alter your future. If someone makes you angry, respond rather than react. ***

TAURUS (April 20-May 20): Being productive will help you avoid getting into a nasty argument. Working toward professional goals that will set you apart from the people with whom you are in competition will pay off. ***

GEMINI (May 21-June 20): Getting out with friends and taking part in something you enjoy will bring interesting new ideas and plans to the forefront, enabling you to move closer to your aspirations. Improvements at home will be a great place to begin. *****

CANCER (June 21-July 22): You don't have to agree with everyone about everything. Giving the people around you space to come and go will allow you the same freedom. Take advantage of this by occupying

your time with worthwhile projects. **

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22): Do what comes naturally and you will make some interesting new connections, offering you financial information. Get your home in tip-top shape. Creative accounting, coupled with an idea you have, can lead to profits. ****

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22): Your effort to add your own touch to whatever you do will separate you from the crowd. You can make financial gains if you promote an idea you have to someone who can contribute what you are lacking. Get involved in an organization that shares your point of view. ***

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22): Set your own goals and standards. You cannot give in to someone pushing you to do things you don't want to do. Move at your own speed. Don't procrastinate because you don't want to hurt someone's feelings. ***

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21): A creative idea will lead to a deal, putting you ahead financially. Travel, seminars, courses, tradeshows and education will all play a role. The people you encounter will be the link you've been missing up until now. ***

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Your efforts to help someone will pay off, bringing you benefits and greater opportunities. Make some productive alterations at home and you will ease up your finances, allowing you to get involved in a moneymaking project. ****

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19): Talk to people who have experience and knowledge and you will be in a much

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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better position to make your next move. Open your home for group discussions and family talks. Offering affection and being attentive will improve the relationships that count. **

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): Being frivolous now will leave you financially short. Instead of spending, find new ways to create greater cash flow. It's time you put your skills to better use so that you can get ahead and change your lifestyle. *****

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20): Relationship issues should be handled with care. If you are compassionate and understanding, you will enhance your romantic life. Make some physical changes to your living quarters that will be conducive to working from home. ***

Birthday Baby: You are curious and work aggressively to achieve your goals. You look at all angles of a situation. You are calculating, strategic and a helpful friend.

Eugenia's Web sites: eugenialast.com for confidential consultations, myspace.com/eugenialast for Eugenia's blog, astroadvice.com for fun

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku By Dave Green

Difficulty Level ★

Saturday's SUDOKU Answer

6	9	2	4	8	7	3	1	5
4	5	7	2	3	1	6	9	8
1	3	8	6	5	9	2	4	7
9	2	5	3	7	4	8	6	1
8	7	6	1	2	5	9	3	4
3	1	4	9	6	8	5	7	2
2	8	9	7	1	6	4	5	3
5	6	1	8	4	3	7	2	9
7	4	3	5	9	2	1	8	6

Difficulty Level ★★

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

WONDERWORD® By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY**. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD. The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

LINDSEY VONN **Solution: 9 letters**

N D L O G R D E T E P M O C A
O L E M A E T R I P L E I O L
D M L E M I N C M M O V N L P
L U O I P K N I T Y E I I O I
I R T L H S C R L L L H S R N
K E L Y A N O O M O K L D A E
I L L N L L W I P C R U R D S
R I U N A I S O U L E A O O K
C A B U N S T B D A R P C N I
H S D S O O H W A C E T E D I
B H E U E R O S G I D N R O N
E C R F A N M H O S E I I N G
R I O C S V A I L Y F A S T N
G R E P U S S N F H S S P U C
T E U R O P A C U P I C A B O

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Alan, Alpine Skiing, Buckhill, Caroline, Ciro, Colorado, Compete, Cow, Cups, DonDon, Downhill, Erich Sailer, Europa Cup, Fast, Federer, Gold, Golf, Kildon, Kirchberg, Levi, Missouri, Olympe, Physical, Picabo, Race, Records, Red Bull, Saint Paul, Shin, Skier, Sialom, Snow, Speed, Sunny, Super G, Team, Thomas, Timed, Triple, Trofeo Topolino, Vail, Wins

Last Saturday's Answer: Vegetables

To own THE COLLECTED WONDERWORD, Volume 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29 or 30 send \$5.95 each (US funds only payable to Universal Uclick, plus \$3 postage for the first book order, \$1 plus for each additional book. Send to WONDERWORD, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, Mo. 64106 or call toll-free, 1-800-642-6480. Order online at uclick.com.

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IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

OSCAR MARATITA OGO,
Plaintiff,

vs

SEVERINA ATALIG OGO,
Respondent.

FCD-DI
CIVIL ACTION
NO. 07-0150

ORDER TO
APPEAR
OF PLEAD
(7 CMC § 1301)

TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANT:
SEVERINA ATALIG OGO

PURSUANT TO 7 CMC § 1301, YOU ARE HEREBY ORDERED to make your appearance or file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint filed with the Commonwealth Superior Court, within 30 days from the service date. You are instructed to make your appearance before the Clerk of Courts of mail a copy of your answer to the Complaint to the TORRES BROTHERS, LLC., whose address is P.O. box 501856, Saipan, MP 96950, as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing. You may obtain a copy of the Complaint by contacting Petitioner's counsel of record.

If you choose to file an answer, your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of Court of Guma Hustisia, Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and send to the Clerk of the Court by messenger or mail.

If you fail to make your appearance or file an answer in accordance with this Order To Appear or Plead, a default judgment will be entered against you for the relief of the Complaint.

A copy of this Order is to be published at a newspaper of general circulation, once a week for two consecutive weeks.

SO ORDERED this 1st of April, 2010.

/s/ KENNETH L. GOVENDO
Associate Judge

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IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

YAHONG BAI INDALECIO,
Plaintiff,

vs

ZHANG KUN NIANA and QIANDE LI,
Defendants.

Civil Action
No. 09-0347

SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION

TO THE ABOVE NAMED DEFENDANTS:

ZHANG KUN NIANA and QIANDE LI

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which you can get at the TORRES BROTHERS, LLC., within thirty (30) days after the last day of publication of this Summons, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the TORRES BROTHERS, LLC., whose address is P.O. Box 501856, TORRES BROTHERS, LLC., Ben & Bibang Bldg., 1st Floor, Middle Road, Saipan MP 96950, as soon as practicable after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of Court at the Guma Hustisia, Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of the Court by messenger or mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice.

If you fail to file and answer in accordance with this Summons, judgment of default may be taken against you for the relief as stated in the Complaint.

By order of this Court.

Dated this 6th of May 2010.

/s/ Clerk of Courts

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Date of Birth : November 29, 1985
Passport No. : G27912976
Expiration Date : March 12, 2018

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JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENT

Opening Date: Friday 5/14/10	Closing Date: Thursday 5/27/10
JVA No. 10-021	Position Title Trades Assistant
Position(s) Three	*Salary \$11,036
Contract Two-years	Location Admin./Radio Control, Saipan

Opening Date: Friday 5/14/10	Closing Date: Until Filled
JVA No. 10-022	Position Title In-House Legal Counsel
Position(s) One	*Salary **UNG
Contract Two-years	Location Admin./Legal, Saipan

*For more information about the position(s) being advertised; requirements, equivalency policy, and salary; please contact or stop by the Human Resource office on the third floor of the Joeten Dandan Building. **Salary commensurate to experience.

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ANNOUNCEMENT OF EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

ACCOUNTING CLERK

Opening Date: Monday, May 24, 2010
Closing Date: Wednesday, June 23, 2010
Job Location: NMHC Central Office, Garapan, Saipan, MP 96950
Salary: PL 21-1, \$15,105.87 to PL 21-5, \$18,356.51 per annum
Commensurate with education, training and experience.

Detailed job description, qualification requirements and other information may be picked up during working hours at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

All applicants must complete and submit a cover letter together with the NMHC Employment Application Form **AND** required documents that are listed in the Employment Application Package. Failure to provide the required documents will result in automatic disqualification.

NMHC and all its properties are drug-free zones; therefore, selected applicant will be subject to pre-employment drug screening.

Applicants are requested to submit their original cover letter, resume, application and supporting documents to the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, no later than 4:30 p.m., Wednesday, June 23, 2010 **OR MAILED AND POSTMARKED** no later than June 23, 2010, to the Corporate Director, Northern Marianas Housing Corporation, P. O. Box 500514, Saipan, MP 96950.

It is the policy of the Northern Marianas Housing Corporation (NMHC) that the merit system will be applied and administered according to the principle of equal opportunity for all citizens and nationals as defined by its personnel regulations and the Northern Marianas Commonwealth Constitution regardless of age, race, sex, religion, political affiliation or belief, marital status, disability or place of origin.

NMHC is a fair housing agency and an equal opportunity provider, lender and employer.

/s/ **MARCIE M. TOMOKANE**
Chairwoman of the Board

CLASSIFIEDS RATES AND POLICIES

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Saipan Tribune also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 6-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as \$27 for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of the packages below.

ADS	(PRINT)	COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE)
• 3-Liner	\$15	\$27
• 5-Liner	\$24	\$39
• 3-Liner with picture	\$24	\$42
• 5-Liner with picture	\$36	\$57

ADVERTISING DEADLINE

Classified Ads

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
■ All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

CANCELLATION

Classified Ads

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

CHECK YOUR ADS

Saipan Tribune will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the Saipan Tribune are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, Saipan Tribune reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.



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Celtics rout Magic; open 3-0 lead



BOSTON (AP)—There were still 20 seconds left in the game when Paul Pierce decided he didn't need to see any more and headed to the locker room.

In the hallway, he repeated aloud: "One more. One more."

Pierce helped the Celtics open a 16-point, first-quarter lead, then watched as Rajon Rondo and Glen "Big Baby" Davis helped Boston coast to a 94-71 victory over the Orlando Magic and take a 3-0 lead in the best-of-seven Eastern Conference finals.

The most-decorated team in NBA history, the Celtics are one win away from their second trip to the finals in three years—and their 21st in all. No NBA team has ever lost a playoff series after winning the first three games.

"We're motivated for what's at stake. We see the big picture," said Pierce, who was the finals MVP when Boston won its record 17th NBA title in 2008. "We were coming home for two games on our home court. We're motivated. We can feel it. Guys know what it's like to win a championship and play for a championship."

The Magic have to win Game 4 on Monday night to avoid a sweep and force the series back to Orlando. They'll need a better effort than in Game 3, when they fell behind early for the third straight game. This time, they didn't even mount a late charge to make it close.

"The most disappointing to me was that I didn't have our team better ready to play," said Magic coach Stan Van Gundy, who was himself knocked over late in the game when Kevin Garnett was pushed into the Orlando bench going after a loose ball. "It starts with me. It's my job. I'm the coach of this team. It starts with me and I'm not happy with where we had our team tonight or anything I did."

Pierce had 15 points and nine rebounds, Ray Allen scored 14 and Garnett added 10 points in just 24 minutes. But this time it wasn't the Celtics' aging all-stars that did the damage—it was the two youngest players on the roster, Davis and Rondo, who were born in 1986, the year that Larry Bird and the original Big Three won the last of their three NBA titles.

Davis scored 17 points, and Rondo added 11 points and 12 assists, and they also gave the team energy and defense that the Magic couldn't match, diving to the floor for loose balls and getting the crowd going with spectacular plays.



Boston Celtics forward Glen Davis (11) saves the ball from going out of bounds as Orlando Magic guard Jameer Nelson (14) reacts during the first half of Game 3 of the NBA Eastern Conference basketball finals in Boston on Saturday, May 22, 2010.

Davis celebrated one play underneath the basket with an ecstatic but odd session of running in place; the crowd went wild. Rondo outthrustled Jason Williams down the court for a loose ball in the second quarter, diving to take it away and then getting up to beat him again for the layup.

"What he's doing is, he's leading the team," Celtics coach Doc Rivers said. "He's playing with great focus. He has a great sense of what to call offensively. And now he's giving an amazing effort, never giving up on any possession. When you have that speed and then you have that heart, you become a pretty good player."

One game after scoring 30 points, Dwight Howard had just seven and seven rebounds. Rashard Lewis was also disappointing, scoring four points on 2-for-8 shooting, missing all four 3-point attempts. Vince Carter and Jameer Nelson had 15 points apiece.

"This is a tough one to swallow," Carter said. "To come out with a sense of urgency—I don't feel like we really did that. They did a great job of really playing like they were down and they needed

to win more than we did. And after about midway in that first, they started pulling away from us and we never recovered."

Ten times the Celtics have opened a 3-0 lead in a playoff series. Four times they've swept, and six times they won in five games.

But the Celtics only need to look down the hall for a reminder that they're not done yet: Just eight days ago in the same building, the Philadelphia Flyers completed their comeback after trailing the Boston Bruins 3-0 in the NHL's Eastern Conference semifinals.

Celtics fans either don't remember or don't care: They started chanting "Beat L.A!" at the start of the third quarter, when Boston led 75-47. The Lakers lead the Phoenix Suns 2-0 heading into Game 3 of the Western Conference finals on Sunday, and there's nothing the Celtics would like better than another go-round with the archrivals they beat in '08.

"We've got to resist the temptation of looking forward. We've got to win a game," Rivers said. "They're going to come back in the next game, and they're going to give us their best shot. They're a competitive group, and we know that.

Quite honestly, we're not good enough to let up. I can tell you that."

Pierce had eight points and five rebounds in the first quarter, when the Celtics scored the first seven points and then added a 14-0 run to open a 21-6 lead. Howard missed his first four shots, along with a pair of free throws, before he made one of two foul shots in the final seconds of the first quarter to cut the deficit to 27-12.

It was the third straight time in the series the Celtics opened a big lead, but in each of the first two games Orlando eliminated most of the deficit to get within a single basket in the final minutes.

This one only got worse.

"We can't hold our heads," Howard said. "This is a very tough situation, but if we already think about being defeated then we shouldn't even come for Game 4. We've got to just keep fighting and stay together."

In the second quarter, the Celtics scored seven straight points to extend the lead to 24. It was a 28-point game at the end of three, and Boston led by as many as 32 in the fourth before Rivers emptied his bench.

Jordan Spieth, 16, in contention at Byron Nelson

IRVING, Texas (AP)—Making the cut at the Byron Nelson Championship never was the goal for Jordan Spieth. The 16-year-old insists he's here to win.

The high school junior shot a 3-under 67 Saturday, his best round yet. That dropped him to 6-under 204 for the tournament, giving him a legitimate chance to win his PGA Tour debut. He is tied for seventh, sixth shots behind leader Jason Day.

"I know the pins are going to be the toughest pins I've ever experienced in my life, but if I'm confident," Spieth said. "I'm going to start firing because I got nothing to lose, nothing to hold back, might as well try and make a run."

Spieth on Friday became the sixth-youngest player to make a cut. The best finish for someone so young was Italy's Matteo Manassero, tying for 13th at the 2009 British Open.

Spieth (pronounced SPEE-th) is from Dallas and won a state high school title last week. On Saturday, he was playing before his largest gallery yet—after all, school was out, so more of his pals could be there.

Playing partner Tom Pernice Jr. shot a 66 to move to 203. When the round ended, they shook hands and the 50-year-old Pernice offered some words of wisdom.

"He's a wonderful young man," said Pernice, who has two daughters Spieth's age. "He's got a lot of exuberance and excitement in him."

Spieth opened with a birdie. He then had a rare wild stretch on the third through sixth holes: bogey, birdie, bogey. He got back to making pars with the occasional birdie mixed

in - such as No. 16, where he made a great sand save Friday.

Spieth gave back a stroke with a bogey on the par-3 17th. His tee shot went past the green and his chip didn't roll as far as he'd hoped. He missed the par putt, tapped it in and walked off the green muttering, "So unnecessary!"

The frustration might have lingered on the final tee—his shot went into the rough on the first fairway. The ball had

to clear a bunch of trees to a hole surrounded by sand, with water in the vicinity, too. The shot was so perfectly on line that Spieth spun his club and stifled a smile.

The ball actually landed in one of those bunkers, but he softly rolled it within 8 feet. He made the par-sav-

ing putt, gave a few fist pumps and walked off thinking about what could happen Sunday.

"It was nice to finish getting a putt to drop," he said. "Hopefully I can make a run at it tomorrow."

Pernice noted that the excitement Spieth is generating proves "you don't need Tiger and Phil always to have a great event."

Woods just happens to be the last high school player in this tournament, back in 1993. He shot 77-72 and missed the cut as a 17-year-old, then came back four years later and became the event's youngest winner.

Even if he doesn't, Spieth has plenty of other events to look forward to—a sponsor's exemption into the Memphis PGA Tour stop in June, and in July he's got a title to defend at the U.S. Junior Amateur Championship.

NBA BRIEFS

Cuban fined \$100,000 for comments on LeBron

NEW YORK (AP)—Dallas Mavericks owner Mark Cuban has been fined \$100,000 by the NBA for comments made about free-agent-to-be LeBron James that violated the league's anti-tampering rules. The outspoken billionaire, in an interview this week with CNNMoney.com, said "anybody" would be interested in James. Cuban said it would be tough to sign the two-time defending league MVP in free agency, but a sign-and-trade deal with Cleveland is something he would look at. Phoenix Suns President of Basketball Operations Steve Kerr has been fined \$10,000, also for public comments made in violation of the anti-tampering rules. Kerr's comments were made on a radio show on May 14. Cuban didn't immediately return an email from The Associated Press.

Heat guard Wade takes stand in restaurant trial

MIAMI (AP)—Dwyane Wade has finally taken the stand at the trial where two ex-partners are suing him for \$25 million in a failed restaurant deal. The star Miami Heat guard was called as the case's third witness around 4:15 p.m. He's expected to testify for about an hour before court breaks for the weekend. The lawsuit involves the defunct deal over what was to be a chain of D. Wade's Place sports-themed restaurants. Plaintiffs Mark Rodberg and Lauren Hollander claim Wade breached a contract by demanding higher compensation than first agreed to, then abandoning the deal in 2008. Wade says he's entitled to damages because Rodberg and Hollander used his likeness in ways he did not approve.

Pittman leaves combine after brother is killed

AUSTIN, Texas (AP)—Former Texas center Dexter Pittman left the NBA draft combine Friday to be with his family a day after his half-brother was shot and killed in a Houston suburb. Pittman's agent, Mark Bartelstein, confirmed Pittman's departure. Texas spokesman Scott McConnell said Pittman's high school coach and godfather, Bennett Hatten, told school officials that Darius Johnson, 15, was shot during a confrontation in Katy and later died at a hospital. Harris County Sheriff's Department spokeswoman Janie Wagner said a deputy was sent to the home just before 10 p.m. Thursday. The deputy found the victim "in the garage in his residence sitting in a chair with a gunshot wound to his head." Wagner said the case is being investigated as a homicide. She had no other details and said the department wasn't identifying the victim because he was a juvenile. An investigator with the Harris County medical examiner said an autopsy was planned Friday. "Obviously the thoughts and prayers of all of us associated with the University of Texas basketball program are with Dexter Pittman and his family. We know that this is a very difficult time for them," Longhorns coach Rick Barnes said.

Dice-K loses no-hit bid in 8th, Sox blank Phils



PHILADELPHIA (AP)—Daisuke Matsuzaka took a no-hitter into the eighth inning, losing his bid on Juan Castro's bloop single with two outs, and the Boston Red Sox beat the Philadelphia Phillies 5-0 on Saturday night.

Boston made several outstanding defensive plays on hard-hit balls, but it was Castro's soft single over shortstop that finally fell. Matsuzaka retired Shane Victorino to end the eighth and Daniel Bard worked a perfect ninth to finish the one-hitter.

Castro, filling in for injured shortstop Jimmy Rollins, looped a 3-1 pitch just out of Marco Scutaro's reach. The shortstop lunged with his glove and tumbled to the turf, but the ball dropped cleanly in short left field.

Matsuzaka (3-1) struck out five and walked four in his longest outing of the year. The right-hander was making his fifth start after beginning the season on the disabled list with a neck strain.

Matsuzaka has never pitched a shut-out in the majors. His only complete game came on May 14, 2007, against Detroit, in his rookie season after coming over from Japan.

He got plenty of help from his defense in this one.

Chase Utley ripped a liner in the first inning, but was robbed of a hit on a leaping catch by Red Sox second baseman Dustin Pedroia. Utley also drove the ball to deep left-center in the fourth, but Jeremy Hermida made a running catch at the base of the wall in front of the 374-foot sign.

In the sixth, Scutaro ranged to his left and made a strong play to retire Placido Polanco and end the inning. Matsuzaka also made a fine play by beating Victorino to first base by a step after taking the toss from David Ortiz on Victorino's grounder to first.

Matsuzaka ended the seventh by snaring Jayson Werth's sharp line drive that appeared headed to center field for a hit. The pitcher paused for a second after making the excuse-me catch, appearing to look with surprise at his glove.

Athletics 1, Giants 0

At Oakland, California, Gio Gonzalez retired his final 20 batters as Oakland scored an unearned run to beat Matt Cain and San Francisco in the Bay Bridge Series.

An error by first baseman Aubrey Huff set up Coco Crisp's sacrifice fly in the third inning. The Giants managed only three hits and matched a season high with their fourth straight loss.

Gonzalez (5-3) allowed two hits in eight innings.

Cain (2-4) pitched a five-hitter for his first complete game since last Aug. 3 against Houston.

Twins 8, Brewers 7, 12 innings

At Minneapolis, Jason Kubel's sacrifice fly in the 12th inning lifted Minnesota over Milwaukee.

Jesse Crain (1-0) picked up the victory for the Twins despite issuing a five-pitch walk to Prince Fielder—his fourth of the game—to start the 12th. Crain got the next two batters and struck out Jody Gerut looking to end the inning.



Boston Red Sox starting pitcher Daisuke Matsuzaka at work in the first inning of an interleague baseball game with the Philadelphia Phillies, Saturday, May 22, 2010, in Philadelphia.

Nationals 7, Orioles 6

At Washington, Adam Dunn's two-run single capped a sixth-inning rally that carried Washington past Baltimore, which wasted a bizarre inside-the-park homer by Adam Jones.

Jones hit the second inside-the-park homer in the three-year history of Nationals Park—and the second in four days. With a runner on in the fourth, Jones hit a drive to deep center that sent Nyjer Morgan to the base of the wall. The ball hit Morgan's glove and bounced out, and Morgan immediately went into a tirade. Left fielder Josh Willingham retrieved the ball, but too late to prevent Jones from circling the bases.

White Sox 4, Marlins 1

At Chicago, Alex Rios hit a two-run homer and Gavin Floyd pitched 6 1-3 sharp innings to help the Chicago White Sox beat Florida.

Rios drove in three runs for the White Sox, who won back-to-back games for the first time since April 25 when they swept the Seattle Mariners. Chicago has only won consecutive games three times this season.

Marlins starter Chris Volstad (3-5) gave up three runs over six innings.

Angels 10, Cardinals 7

At St. Louis, Scott Kazmir ended a

string of three straight losses with his best outing of the season as Los Angeles backed him with 13 hits in a victory over St. Louis.

The Angels have won three of four and became the first team to score in double figures against the Cardinals.

Kazmir (3-4) gave up Matt Holliday's fifth homer, ending a 107 at-bat homer drought, and then walked David Freese and Colby Rasmus in the second. The left-hander retired the next 17 in a row and left with a 10-3 lead, allowing three hits in seven innings to match his season high.

Rockies 3, Royals 0

At Kansas City, Missouri, Jeff Francis and three relievers combined on a six-hitter and Troy Tulowitzki homered to help Colorado beat Kansas City.

Francis, who won 17 games in 2007 and missed all of last season after having shoulder surgery, earned his first victory since Aug. 25, 2008. He held the Royals to five hits over 6 1-3 innings while walking two and striking out three. Francis (1-0) has given up just one run and 12 hits in 13 1-3 innings since coming off the disabled list.

Rays 4, Astros 2

At Houston, Jeff Niemann struck out five batters in seven efficient innings and

Dioner Navarro had a two-run double as Tampa Bay got away with some sloppy play to beat Houston.

The 27-year-old Niemann (4-0), a former first-round draft pick out of Rice, allowed four hits and one walk. He hasn't given up more than three earned runs in any of his nine starts.

Reds 6, Indians 4

At Cleveland, Johnny Cueto won his third straight start and Laynce Nix homered for the third day in a row as Cincinnati beat an error-prone Cleveland.

Cueto (4-1) gave up four hits and two runs over six innings as the Reds moved into first place in the National League Central by a half-game over St. Louis.

Dodgers 6, Tigers 4

At Los Angeles, Casey Blake homered for the third time in five games and made a critical defensive play in the ninth, Matt Kemp also hit a solo shot and Blake DeWitt had a two-run triple to lead the Los Angeles Dodgers past Detroit.

Rookie John Ely (3-1) allowed two runs and eight hits through six-plus innings and struck out three, helping the Dodgers win for the 13th time in 14 games.

Mets 5, Yankees 3

At New York, Jason Bay tied a career high with four hits and David Wright added a pair of RBI singles to back a sterling performance by Mike Pelfrey and help the New York Mets beat the Yankees.

Pelfrey (6-1) allowed one run and six hits in six innings for the Mets, who scored all their runs with two outs. Angel Pagan had three hits and pinch-hitter Alex Cora contributed a key RBI single in the sixth at Citi Field.

The slumping Yankees left 14 runners on base in their fourth loss in five games, making it difficult to overcome another subpar performance by Phil Hughes (5-1).

Diamondbacks 8, Blue Jays 5

At Phoenix, Chris Young drove in four runs and Edwin Jackson was stellar through his first seven innings to help Arizona past Toronto.

Adam LaRoche added two RBIs, and Conor Jackson and Mark Reynolds each drove in a run for the Diamondbacks, who extended their season-high winning streak to four games.

Edwin Jackson (3-5) won consecutive decisions for the first time this season after giving up five runs and six hits in 7 2-3 innings. He left after giving up four runs on homers to Edwin Encarnacion and Aaron Hill in the eighth.

Cubs 5, Rangers 4, 10 innings

At Arlington, Texas, pinch-hitter Mike Fontenot had the tiebreaking RBI single in the 10th as the Chicago Cubs beat Texas, ending the Rangers' five-game winning streak.

Darren O'Day (1-2) gave up hits to all three batters he faced in the 10th, when Tyler Colvin had a leadoff double before Kosuke Fukudome and Fontenot both had singles to right to make it 4-3. Another run scored on Derrek Lee's grounder with the bases loaded.

Sean Marshall (4-1) pitched around Josh Hamilton's double after relieving starter Randy Wells

with one out in the ninth. Carlos Marmol worked the 10th for eighth save in 10 chances despite giving up an RBI single to Ian Kinsler.

Padres 2, Mariners 1

At Seattle, Matt Stairs cracked a long solo homer off the facade of the second deck as San Diego starter Clayton Richard wiggled free from the few jams he faced against Seattle.

A night after the teams combined for 23 runs to open interleague play, both sides struggled to mount much offense.

Stairs came through in the fourth off Seattle starter Ian Snell (0-3) for his first homer of the season. Facing a 2-2 count, Stairs lined a 412-foot shot off a Las Vegas advertisement in deep right field. The Padres added another run in the sixth when Chase Headley scored on a wild pitch.

Braves 4, Pirates 2

At Pittsburgh Derek Lowe remained unbeaten against Pittsburgh, and Melky Cabrera hit his first home run for Atlanta to help the Braves extend their season-best winning streak to five games.

After the start was delayed 92 minutes by rain, Lowe (6-4) needed 99 pitches to get through five innings but improved to 8-0 against the Pirates. He allowed two runs and five hits while walking four and striking out five.

Home runs by Cabrera and Eric Hinske off major league loss leader Charlie Morton (1-8) staked Lowe to a 3-0 lead.

Vikings QB Brett Favre confirms ankle surgery



Brett Favre posted a short statement on his website on Friday night confirming he had arthroscopic ankle surgery, possibly clearing the way for the quarterback to return to the Minnesota Vikings next season.

Favre's future has been up in the air since the Vikings lost to New Orleans in the NFC championship game. He had said he would need ankle surgery if he wanted to play in 2010, but there was no word Friday about his playing career.

"This is to confirm that I did have a procedure to remove some scar tissue and bone spurs from my ankle which had been bothering me for a period of time," Favre said on his website. "I appreciate your concerns."

ESPN.com reported Dr. James Andrews operated on Favre's left ankle at the Andrews Institute in Gulf Breeze, Fla., on Friday morning.

Favre, who turns 41 in October, is coming off one of the best seasons of his storied career, throwing for 33 touchdowns and only seven interceptions while guiding the Vikings to a 12-4 record. He is under contract for \$13 million next season if he plays.

The surgery came one day after Favre visited the Southern Mississippi baseball team in Hattiesburg, Miss., and told the Golden Eagles he would return for one more season in the NFL if they made it to the College World Series for the second consecutive year. (AP)

OL'ACES

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with a one-out single.

After a scoreless third inning, the Falcons found some offense and tied the game at 2-2.

Angel Palacios brought in Matti Camacho with an RBI double before Chris Sablan singled him to the plate.

But Ol'Aces battled back to build a three run lead in the bottom half.

Virlanson Secharmidal led off with a walk and was driven in by a fielder's choice from Peyton Lizama. Roman Reyes then singled in both Michael Muna

and Lizama; Muna reached earlier with a double after the lead off walk.

The Falcons went 1-2-3 in the top of the fifth, which allowed Ol'Aces to pull away with an 8-2 lead after another big three-run inning.

Jesse Brel and Knoji lead off and both reached off an error and a walk.

A strikeout later, Michael Muna drew a walk to load the bases. Peyton Lizama then busted a big three-RBI single that cleared the bases.

The Falcons were deflated by the last inning and managed runners at second and third, but were shut down at the plate by

Eina, as they were for virtually the whole game.

Ol'Aces' Eina pitched a tremendous game. He went all six innings and allowed two earned runs with 13 strikeouts, five hits, and a walk.

Other Ol'Aces notables include Peyton Lizama who batted 2-for-4 with five RBIs and one run; Michael Muna batted 2-for-3 with three runs and a stolen base; Roman Reyes batted 1-for-3 with two RBIs, one run, a walk, and a stolen base.

Survivors 7, Red Sox 6

Trailing by five runs after the first three innings, the Survivors

staged a late comeback to edge out the Red Sox, 7-6, with an impressive a clutch performance in the last inning.

After a scoreless first inning, the visiting Red Sox took the lead in the top of the second inning from Franco Nakamura who reached off a fielder's choice and scored off an error.

Then Jobe Reyes started the top of the third for the Sox and reached off an error. Cory Camcho came next and belted a two-run homerun with zero outs.

Jonathon Camaretto and Thace Palacios both hit a one out single and scored off errors before the Survivors could escape the third.

The Survivors offense was still a no-show in the bottom half and the Red Sox added yet another run in the top of the fourth from Jose Tyquemingo who reached off an error and scored off a passed ball.

In the bottom half of the fourth, the Survivors finally found the scoreboard with two runs.

George Pangelinan reached with a two-out single and was driven home by Allen Cepeda.

Jester Kintaro came next and knocked in Dion Iglecias who earlier drew a two-out walk.

After giving up three runs in the third and fourth innings, Survivors relief pitcher James Kintaro settled down and found the strike zone late in the game.

Kintaro finished strong and kept the Sox at bay in the fifth and sixth innings.

In the bottom of the fifth, the Survivors made the score, 6-3, when Caleb Takoa brought in Jerry Kintol with an RBI double.

Trailing by three runs in the bottom of the last inning, the Survivors' offense came out of nowhere to amass a four-run winning rally with zero outs.

Pangelinan led off with a single and scored off an error. Then Sullivan Kazou and Cepeda each reached with singles. Joseph Seo was then hit by a pitch to load the bases.

Anthony Guerrero drew a walk that scored Kazao and Truman Shiro played the hero, smashing a walk-off two RBI single for the win.

Notables of the game included George Pangelinan who batted 2-for-3 with two runs and a stolen base; Suillivan Kazao batted 1-for-2 with two runs; Truman Shiro batted 1-for-3 with two big RBIs; and winning pitcher, James Kintaro allowed one earned run in 3 and 2/3 innings with eight strikeouts, two hits, and two walks.

PALAKSI

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until he slipped away from Ku and got on top and connected with two lightning fast elbows to Ku's head for the stunning knockout.

In the second main event, Guam's rising star Rob "The Beast" Washington remained undefeated after beating Ku's teammate, Sang Il "Dynamite" An in the 170-lb. division.

Washington, who improved to 7-0, took his opponent to the ground at will and maintained a dominant position for the majority of all three rounds using his superior wrestling skills to ground-and-pound An.

In the third main event bout, Yang "The Hammer" Dong Yi remained undefeated after soundly defeating Saipan's tough

stand-up brawler and infamous giant killer "Kill" Bill Saures from Team XXTREAM.

Yi posted his ninth win in nine matches at 1:46 into the first round after slamming Saures to the mat. He then unleashed a vicious blow to the gut knocking the wind out of Saures before a few extra shots to the head earned Yi a tap out victory.

Trench Tech's young gun Shane "Pikaboo" Alvarez, meanwhile, made light work of Team Zalaka's Lyle Deleon Guerrero during the special K-1 kickboxing exhibition match that started the night.

Alvarez received a unanimous decision as his opponent did not initiate nearly as much offensive aggression in all three rounds.

In a 130-lb. undercard bout, Team Haga T's Jordan "Jungle Boy" Ogo defeated Team Zala-

ka's Roger Mai with a rear-naked choke 2:12 into the first round.

Then in a 145-lb. contest, Craig "Earthquake" Borja from Team Zengzung Tinian defeated Team Haga T's C.J. "Face" Takai via referee stoppage at 1:03 into the first round.

In a 135-lb. undercard bout, Jun "Shockeraba" San Nicolas, from Team Spike 22 Guam, defeated Team Predator Combat's "Tabi" Jay Muna with a first round tap out, 1:49 into the first round.

Then Trench Tech's own Alverick "Pretty Boy" Alvarez, displayed a dominant performance in a 140-lb. undercard bout by swiftly defeating Barry Mality via tap out at 1:38 into the first round.

In a 165-lb. fight, Spike 22 Guam's Mikey "The Flash" Taitano beat Ben Duenas from Team Zalaka with a tap out due

to a sudden armbar at 1:13 into the second round.

Next an exhibition boxing match went down between Las Vegas' Elemer Rivera and Robert Palacios. Rivera showcased his power and size to cut off the ring from Palacios where he unloaded multiple power punches and combinations that submitted Palacios 2:24 into the first round.

In a 145-lb undercard showdown, Jon "The Heat" Delos Reyes from Team Countershot Guam defeated Derrick "El Peleagro" Rangamar from Marianas Elite with a 2:04 first round tap out.

In the last under card bout, Josh "The Hedgehog" Alvarez from Team Countershot Guam defeated Marianas Elite's Martin "Spartan" Ayuyu in a 140-lb. bout with a tap out at 1:14 into the second round.

HOPWOOD

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kick it out, but missed his target and the ball rolled in.

The match went to extra 14 minutes after Hopwood 1 and 2 had a 1-1 draw in regulation. Bryton Atalig scored the lone goal for Hopwood 2 in regulation, while Zhi Peng Lin put Hopwood 1 in the scoreboard in the first half.

In the first half of the ex-

tension, Hopwood 2 made repeated attempts to score, but failed before a costly defensive error allowed Choi to find the back of the net and wrap up the match.

A perpetual trophy was presented to Hopwood 2 for winning this year's U14 IFL championship. Receiving the trophy was coach Frankie Angel and other members of the team; Kim Olopai, Austin Pitag, Ezekiel Valdez, June Litulimar, Ethan Dickinson,

Daimionne Greer, Ethan Calvo, Oliver Lumbad, Joseph Lee, Bryan Kaniki, and Gregorio Sablan.

Angel's wards finished the regular season of the two-round robin IFL with a 5-1-2, win-draw-loss record to place second behind sister team Hopwood 1.

"Going into the finals, I told the boys that we've come this far and should not waste this opportunity. I told them to play hard, play all out, and make me proud. They exactly

did that and here we are reaping the fruits of our labor and sacrifices," Angel said.

In the battle for third place, Saipan International School was dueling Calvary Christian Academy yesterday and results were unavailable at press time.

Runner-up and third placers were set to receive certificates from the Northern Mariana Islands Football Association.

SIS finished third in the regular season, while Calvary came in fourth.

PIC

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er, Aqua Resort failed to cut the lead to a deuce when it missed on five successive attempts underneath with Jessie Mina muffling three attempts and Glenn Aquino faltering two.

A triple from Pedro Lizama kept Aqua Resort's hopes alive, 84-86, and Ziddy Johanes gave up a quick foul on Abuy to stop the clock, which read eight seconds. Abuy hit the insurance basket, canning his first free throw and missed the second one. Lizama collared the rebound and went up for a triple just past midcourt and missed, handing the series opener to PIC.

Abuy top-scored for PIC with 29 points, making four triples and scoring 18 in the second half when he let Aqua Resort

pay the price for its poor defensive rotation. Rex Yabut and Won Joo Jung chipped in 22 and 17, respectively, taking the cudgels from Darwin Barbo in the first half, when the latter was hounded in the paint and could only log four field goals.

Barbo, who scored 30-plus points in PIC's last two games, made up for his slow offense by playing tough perimeter defense on Glenn Aquino. Aquino went cherry picking in the second period, making four straight short jumpers and scoring 14 points to lift Aqua Resort to a 13-point halftime lead.

However, PIC recovered in the second half when it changed its defensive alignment from 1-2-2 to 2-1-2, preventing Aqua Resort from finding the open man at the top key for short jumpers. Aqua Resort also had poor spacing and was forced to swing the ball to the wings with Mina, Gil

Gapor, and Joe Acosta often left to take shots and missed most of the time, while Aquino was totally out of the picture. If not for Lizama's two triples in the third, Aqua Resort would not be able to keep the lead entering the final canto, 60-59.

PIC continued to play good defense in the fourth quarter to complete the come-from-behind win.

In the battle for third place, dethroned champion Micronesian Brokers, Inc. edged World Resort/Advance, 92-91.

Ivan De Vero drilled 15 of his 21 points in the third period, turning a 65-72 deficit to a two-point win. George Barbo also finished with 21 points, keeping MBI afloat in the first half.

Wowie Abuel paced World Resort/Advance with 24 points, firing 16 in the third period to help the team grab the driver's seat going into the fourth quar-

ter after MBI went on top at the break, 43-35. However, Abuel was held to four points in the final canto and muffed crucial layups in the homestretch, allowing MBI to escape with a close win.

First Game

MBI 92 – Barbo 21, De Vero 21, David 18, Muleta 17, Garcia 11, Cabrera 5.

World Resort/Advance 91 – Abuel 24, Ritual 18, Vinas 17, Olaitiman 15, Tabamo 6, Apasan 5, Navarro 4, Espiritu 2.

Scoring by quarters: 16-11, 43-35, 65-72, 92-91.

Second Game

PIC 87 – Abuy 29, Yabut 22, Barbo 17, Jung 17, Williams 2.

Aqua Resort 84 – Lizama 25, Aquino 18, Gapor 16, Mina 15, Johanes 6, Torres 4.

Scoring by quarters: 19-18, 47-34, 60-59, 87-84.

The Week in Sports

Teams go for the marbles

Last week turned out to be a race for all the marbles, as baseball, football, and athletics held their respective championship rounds.

In baseball, the Fielders clinched the championship in the 2010 Saipan Major League after winning the deciding Game 5 against the Miller Lite Brewers, 20-9. The Fielders dropped the first two games of the best-of-five title series, but swept the last three to complete the come-from-behind title win.

In football, Matansa and MP United secured the U18 championship in the 2010 NMIFA Spring Youth Football League.

Matansa shut out Paire Football Club in the girls U18 finals, 3-0, while MP United edged Paire in the

boys title game, 2-1. Matansa and MP United were awarded with perpetual and miniature trophies for their respective feats.

In athletics, Koblerville Elementary School, William S. Reyes Elementary School, Oleai Elementary School, Hopwood Junior High School, and Marianas High School were victories in the 2010 McDonald's All Schools Championships.

After more than a month of joining qualifying tournaments, these schools

finally reaped the fruits of their hard labor after being crowned champions in their respective age groups.

The Umangs swept the boys and girls' 6 to 8 and 9 to 10 divisions, the Turtles won in the girls' U12, and the Kingfishers prevailed in the boys U12. The Hilitais reigned in the boys and girls U14, while the Dolphins ruled the girls and boys U18.

Named top individual performers in the various age groups were Alexander Limes, Keolani Rios, Negahr

Rastgui, Catherine Atalig, Logan Mister, Rodley Oscar, Brandon Philip, Chris Ubaldo, Reylynn Sapong, and Douglas Dillay.

Other leagues and tournaments were closing in to their championship round.

In the Shirley's caging, the Final Four round was played Wednesday with Pacific Islands Club and Aqua Resort Club downing World Resort/Advance and Micronesian Brokers, Inc., respectively. PIC and Aqua Resort

played Game 1 of their best-of-three title series last Saturday.

In the Navy Hill caging, the Sonics are just waiting for the winner of the Rollers-Viel's game to decide the winner of the Division A finals.

In Saipan Little League Baseball, the playoff round in the Majors division was played last week with Ol'Aces and Falcons the last two teams left standing.

In the Chamolinian softball league, Natibu and Island Rebels battled for the pennant last Friday and several other teams were fighting for the last few playoff spots.

Meanwhile, NMASA met with lawmakers last week with the latter bowing to give financial assistance to CNMI bets to the 2010 Micronesian Games in Palau.



Paire (in red) and Matansa players in action during their girls U18 title game in the NMIFA spring youth league at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO



WALTER SUTHERLAND

The Fielders' Ryan Ada, right, receives the golden glove (infield) award from Saipan Mayor Donald Flores during the awards ceremony for the 2010 Saipan Major League baseball last week. Ada's Fielders beat the Miller Lite Brewers in Game 5 of the finals, 20-9, to win the championship.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

An MP United player kicks the ball during their boys U18 title game against Paire in the NMIFA spring youth league at the Oleai Sports Complex Field.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

A William S. Reyes Elementary School runner leads in the 4x100m relay race during the 2010 McDonald's All Schools Athletic Championships at the Oleai Sports Complex track and field facility.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

A Falcons outfielder throws to first base during their playoff game against the Twins in the Majors division of the SLLB. The Falcons challenged Ol'Aces in the finals.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Athletes pose with their medals at the podium during the awards ceremony for the 2010 McDonald's All Schools Athletics Championships at the Oleai Sports Complex track and field facility.



ROSELYN B. MONROYO

PIC's Won Joo Jung, left, goes for a shot against Aqua Resort's Pedro Lizama during Game 1 of their best-of-three title series in the Shirley's caging last Saturday at the JP Center Basketball Court.



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Saipan Tribune Sports



28 MONDAY, MAY 24, 2010

SAIPAN TRIBUNE

Ol'Aces successfully defends Majors title

By WALTER J. SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

The Happy Market Ol'Aces successfully defended its Saipan Little League Majors Division title after dominating the Falcons, 8-2, in last Saturday's championship game at Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield.

After Ol'Aces pitcher Terson Eina struck out the side to start the first inning,



the defending champions took a one-run lead in the first from Jesse Brel who scored Roman Reyes with an RBI double.

The Falcons led off the second with a double, but Eina came back to strike out the next three in a row.

Then in the bottom half, Ol'Aces added another run from Peyton Lizama, who knocked in Michael Muna, who reached

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The Happy Market Ol'Aces won the Saipan Little League Majors Division Championship over the Falcons, 8-2, last Saturday afternoon at Miguel "Tan Ge" Basa Pangelinan Ballfield. WALTER J. SUTHERLAND

Palaksi slips by Ku in 'Battle Brawl'

By WALTER J. SUTHERLAND
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REPORTER

TRENCIH TECH Eight of the 12 matches on the fight card for Trench Warz 12: Battle Brawl were decided in the first round as all competing fighters came with a lot of energy to entertain the crowd at the World Resort Saipan Friday night.

Giovanni "Palaksi" Sablan improved his win-loss record to 16-4 after winning his 145-lb. main event bout against Korean Top Team Pro fighter's Young Nam "The Hippo" Ku.

The Trench Tech Purebred Gym fighter knocked out Hu in the 1:33 mark of the second round. Sablan was fighting on his back for most of the fight

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WALTER J. SUTHERLAND

Giovanni "Palaksi" Sablan defeated Korea Top Team's Young Nam "The Hippo" Ku in a 150-lb. catch weight bout. Sablan knocked out Ku with some vicious elbows to the head in the middle of the second round.

Hopwood 2 rules U14 interscholastic league

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Woo Seok Choi made a golden goal, lifting Hopwood Junior High School 2 to a 2-1 win over Hopwood 1 in the finals of the 2010 NMIFA U14 Interscholastic Football League yesterday at the Hilitai's field.

Choi scored the game-winning goal midway in the final half of the extension period on a Hopwood 1 miscue on defense. Choi went to attack Hopwood 1's defense at the center of the penalty box and kicked the ball. Hopwood 1 goalie Mark Mora stepped in, but instead of picking up the ball, he opted to

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

Hopwood Junior High School 2 players flash the No. 1 sign after ruling the 2010 NMIFA U14 Interscholastic Football League, following a 2-1 win over Hopwood 1 last Thursday at the Hilitai's field.

PIC a win away from clinching title

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER



Pacific Islands Club stole Game 1 of the title series from Aqua Resort Club in the 2nd Annual Shirley's Coffee Shop Invitational Basketball League, following a close 87-84 victory on Saturday night at the JP Center Basketball Court.

Game 2 of the best-of-three championship showdown between PIC and Aqua Resort will be played tonight with the latter in a must-win situation to force a rubber match on Wednesday.

PIC moved a win away from clinching the championship despite falling behind by as much as 13 in the first half, 47-34.

A 6-0 run at the start of the third period brought PIC back into the game and it kept its momentum in the fourth behind the clutch triples from James Abuy and Woo Joo Jung and crucial free throws from Darwin Barbo and Abuy.

Abuy and Jung hit back-to-back treys entering the final two minute mark of the game to give PIC an 81-74 lead, before Aqua Resort forced a backcourt turnover and made four straight points to stay alive.

The remaining one minute of the game became a test from the foul line for PIC and Abuy and Barbo passed with flying colors. Barbo, who had two airballs from the stripe in the second quarter, went 3-for-4, matching Abuy's performance from the 15-foot line.

Barbo's split gave PIC an 86-81 lead, with 12 seconds left on the clock. Early

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ROSELYN B. MONROYO

PIC's Rex Yabut, right, goes up for a shot against Aqua Resort's Glenn Aquino during Game 1 of their title series in the Shirley's caging on Saturday night at the JP Center Basketball Court.